

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## CONGRATULATING COURTNEY RAFES

### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Courtney Rafe of Justin, TX, on her commitment, contribution and success in this year's Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix. Courtney is the youngest daughter of Richard and Tommy Rafe of Denton, TX. Dr. Richard Rafe is the senior vice president for administrative affairs for the University of North Texas. Tommy Rafe is a science teacher at Gene Pike Middle School in Justin, TX.

As part of a science project, Ms. Rafe devised a railroad warning system that uses ultrasonic sound to detect broken rails and to warn two trains before a collision. Working over a period of several weeks, Ms. Rafe collected data from eight experiments and more than 2,000 tests run on a model train track system constructed in her living room.

She was selected for the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix after earning a top honor with her railway project at a regional competition at the University of North Texas in Denton. At the national competition, Ms. Rafe earned a \$20,000 scholarship from the Department of Homeland Security for her project and was offered an internship with an engineer for the department. Her project has been featured on the Today Show, CNN, ABC and the Discovery Channel.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Ms. Courtney Rafe for her research and for receiving this commendable award. Her commitment to science and to helping others serves as an inspiration to all.

## THANKING CATHERINE (CATHY) BRICKMAN FOR HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

### HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement on January 16, 2006, we rise to thank Ms. Cathy Brickman for 25 years of distinguished service to the United States House of Representatives. Cathy has served this great institution as a valuable employee of House Information Resources, in the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Cathy began her tenure with the United States House of Representatives in November of 1980 as an applications analyst in the House Information Systems group. Cathy's potential and drive were recognized early in her career, resulting in her steady progression to positions of increasing responsibility. During the first 15 years of her career she developed

the requirements for the House's first Correspondence Management System and led the development of the House's first local area network. She was also detailed to the Speaker's Special Task Force on the Development of Parliamentary Institutions in Eastern and Central Europe. On this detail she worked in country in the Parliaments of 11 Eastern, Central European and Baltic countries and Russia to implement information technology systems.

Her last 10 years were spent as team leader, Network Configuration Management for House Information Resources and she continued to be a key member of many important information technology projects in the House. During this time she supervised a team of 17 network communications specialists responsible for configuration and support of the House's large, enterprise data communications network consisting of 20,000 network devices. She was the Contracting Officer's representative for all of the House's Wide Area Network—Internet—communications services and in this capacity she authored multi-year, multi-million dollar contracts. Cathy also managed the expansion of the House's Flagship Frame Relay service and started the implementation of Gigabit Ethernet replacement for the legacy ATM campus data network.

Cathy's leadership while serving the United States House of Representatives has been superior. During the October 2001 anthrax incident, as House Members and staff were forced off-site, Cathy was a key contributor to the efforts to ensure alternate site data networks were rapidly set up. Her standard of excellence, dedication to passionate customer service, organizational skills, professionalism and ability to get the job done earned Cathy the Distinguished Service Award, the Chief Administrative Officer's highest honor, in September 2003. Cathy is admired by the people she led and appreciated by those she served.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Cathy for many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the United States House of Representatives. We wish Cathy many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

## RECOGNITION OF THE SACRED HEART-GRIFFIN CYCLONES FOOTBALL TEAM

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding group of young men from central Illinois. The Sacred Heart-Griffin Cyclones football team from Springfield, IL, last week won the championship game of the Illinois High School Association Class 5A football playoffs, defeating Rock Island Alleman 28–21. The win was the first State championship in SHG's history. The Cyclones went 14–0 this season, and won the Central

State Eight conference championship, along with the State title.

My congratulations go out to Head Coach Ken Leonard and his coaching staff on this magnificent achievement. Most of all, I want to congratulate all the members of the 2005 Sacred Heart-Griffin Cyclones football team, who represented their school, their community and all of Central Illinois so well. I congratulate them on their achievement, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

## HONORING THE PRIDE OF ACADIANA MARCHING BAND

### HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great achievement of the Pride of Acadiana Marching Band from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in the Seventh District of Louisiana.

The Pride of Acadiana Marching Band participated in the 79th Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City on November 24, 2005. One of only ten bands selected, the Acadiana Marching Band was the first Louisiana band to be invited to perform in the parade. The band followed the Big Apple Float, which featured the New Orleans' Krewe of Orpheus along with NYPD officers and FDNY rescue workers in a musical salute to New Orleans.

Playing several Cajun tunes, the Pride of Acadiana Marching Band excited the crowds with songs including "Big Chief," "Money-maker," and "Winter Wonderful." For the NBC exclusive area, the band performed a combination of "When the Saints Go Marching In," "On the Sunny Side of the Street," and "South Rampart Street Parade." "Sleigh Ride" was the holiday tune performed while exiting the NBC area.

In addition to their participation in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the ULL Marching Band performed on the USS *Intrepid*, an aircraft carrier museum.

Today I want to recognize and congratulate the Pride of Acadiana Marching Band and Director Brian Taylor from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, for their achievement and thank them for representing Louisiana at such an extraordinary event.

## CONGRATULATING DANIEL FUNDERBURK

### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Daniel Funderburk of Ft. Worth, Texas for being selected as a finalist in

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the fourth annual TCU Texas Youth Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

The TCU Texas Youth Entrepreneur of the Year Award recognizes high-school entrepreneurs for their successes in business. To be eligible, a high school student must run a business for at least a year. These students are the best of the applicants who applied and their talent, leadership, time management and commitment are remarkable. Finalists are eligible for a series of scholarships valued up to \$20,000.

One of those finalists was Daniel Funderburk, a senior at Grace Preparatory Academy. Mr. Funderburk started X-Press Cuts Lawn Service with his brother in the summer of 2002 at the age of 15. The business grew over the years from mowing local neighborhood lawns to expanding into new neighborhoods to eventually adding a commercial customer. Mr. Funderburk's focus has always been on doing quality work and being reliable. His target market has been those who are not able to take care of their own lawn, either by old age and disabilities, lack of proper equipment, or simply not enough time. In most cases this means he serves the elderly and occasional business person. He plans to continue to grow his business through targeted advertising. So far in 2005 X-Press Cuts Lawn Service has earned \$15,000 in revenue.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Daniel Funderburk for his efforts and for his success in business at such a young age. His dedication and commitment to helping others serve as an inspiration to all.

THANKING MRS. SHERRI  
SAVERCOOL FOR HER SERVICE  
TO THE HOUSE

### HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement in October 2005, we rise to thank Mrs. Sherri Savercool for 25 years of outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Sherri began her career at the House working as an Administrative Specialist and shortly afterwards she was promoted to a Technical Support Specialist. For the past 25 years Sherri has served this great institution as a valuable employee of House Information Resources (HIR) within the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

During her career Sherri held many positions of increasing responsibility, requiring her to learn new and evolving computer technologies. She worked in the Customer Services Group providing technical customer support and training to Members of Congress and their staffs.

In the early 1980s when the House began using personal computers, Sherri was there helping both Member and Committee offices with the integration of their office automation requirements and procedures. She continuously expanded her technical expertise to help House staff in their use of personal computers and a wide range of desktop software. Over time she began supporting more complex hardware and software technology projects as well as managing the Office Management

Demonstration and Training Center. There she was responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Center that provided equipment demonstrations and consulting services for all House staff. Sherri participated in past Congressional transitions for many years, playing an important role ensuring that Members made a seamless transition.

Since 1995, Sherri has been a valuable member of HIR's Client Services Group where she has provided direct technical support and training to all House Staff. Sherri has been very customer oriented, displaying great passion for her work and maintaining excellent relationships with her customers. As a result of this dedication, each of her customers received the best available and most cost-effective office automation services and training.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Sherri for her many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish Sherri many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

### RECOGNITION OF THE NEWTON EAGLES FOOTBALL TEAM

#### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding group of young men from southeastern Illinois. The Newton Eagles football team last week reached the championship game of the Illinois High School Association Class 4A football playoffs for the first time in school history. The Eagles went 12–2 this season, outscoring opponents by a total of 438–191, and winning the Apollo Conference.

My congratulations go out to Head Coach Bob Horst and his coaching staff on this magnificent achievement. Most of all, I want to congratulate all the members of the 2005 Newton Eagles football team, who represented their school, their community and all of southeastern Illinois so well. I congratulate them on their achievement, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

### TRIBUTE TO NORTHERN CAMBRIA HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

#### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Northern Cambria High School Girls Volleyball team on their PIAA Class A volleyball State championship.

The Colts have demonstrated that strong dedication and teamwork will produce unexpected results. After narrowly missing the championship last year, the girls united behind their strong coach, Mike Hogan, and handily defeated their opponents in the State competition. Posting an undefeated season, the Colts also captured the Heritage Conference and District VI championships.

This is Northern Cambria Girls Volleyball first State championship title in the school's

history, which is a great testimony to the unique character of this team. They fought through obstacles and their unwillingness to quit led to their success. The teamwork and the leadership skills the team developed will enrich their lives and serve them well beyond their high school years. I congratulate the Northern Cambria Colts on their State championship and I look forward to hearing of their continued success in next year's season.

Led by head coach Mike Hogan and assistant coach Jennifer Dumm, the 27 members of this championship team include Seniors Ashley Hogan (co-captain), Jaci Jones (co-captain), Sara Hoover, Jess Valeria, Jen Hassen, Shayna Butterworth, Christie Rocco; Juniors Becky Butterworth, Julie Paronish, Lexy Pawlowski, Jenny Eagler, Jacque Link, Carrie Shevock, Lisa McCombie, Tajia Stephens, Megan Long; Sophomores Briana Butterworth, Britteny Daisley, Stephanie Paronish, Courtney Zernick, Brittany Sedlock, Nikole Sherry, and Jennifer Valeria; and Freshmen Cassandra Kollar, Becky Petrisko, Samantha Rodgers, and Deanna Maurer. Congratulations one and all.

### CONGRATULATING VIRGINIA MCNEILL

#### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Virginia McNeill for receiving her bachelors in applied arts and sciences from the University of North Texas.

Ms. McNeill has owned McNeill's Furniture and Appliance in downtown Denton since 1962. She began pursuing a degree in business in 1951 but left college a year later with only 40 credit hours completed to help with the family business. After a brief return to school for a semester in 1984, Ms. McNeill made the decision to return to the University of North Texas in 2002 and not to quit until she had her college degree.

Ms. McNeill's determination and dedication has been an inspiration to her professors and fellow students alike. Fifty-five years after she began working towards her degree, Ms. McNeill will graduate on December 17, 2005, at the age of 77.

It is with great honor I stand here today to recognize Ms. Virginia McNeill for her commitment to fulfilling her lifelong dream.

### THANKING MR. BILL FOULOIS FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

#### HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement in December 2005, we rise to thank Mr. Bill Foulis for 6 years of outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives. His service to the House culminates a career of more than 37 years of service to our country.

Over the past 6 years, Bill has made significant contributions to the improvement of the

operations of the office of the Chief Administrative Officer, CAO. When Bill came to work for the House in October 1999, he immediately began working on the reorganization of the former Office of Media and Support Services, MSS, into what is today House Support Services, HSS. Bill's leadership eliminated the duplication of activities between the individual offices of MSS and changed the culture from an inward-focused organization that waited for the customer to come to them to an outward-focused organization that attempts to anticipate the customer's need. Bill's work with the reorganization of HSS was the first step in the direction of the major cultural change that is taking place within the CAO organization. Therefore, it was only logical that Bill be asked to lead the effort in developing the implementation plan for the CAO Customer Solutions Delivery Model. For the past 6 months, Bill has led the team that is developing this new CAO-wide model of customer service that will expand upon, and improve, the underlying tenet of the HSS reorganization: providing outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Bill for his many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish Bill many wonderful years in fulfilling his retirement dreams.

TRIBUTE TO MARY WELLS,  
L.C.S.W.

**HON. JIM SAXTON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, Mary Wells, President and CEO of Family Service of Burlington County as she retires after 35 years of faithful service to the citizens of this great county.

Mary earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Drew University in 1964, and her Masters in Social Work at the Rutgers School of Social Work in 1967. She became a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in 1994.

Mrs. Wells was the first chair of the New Jersey Department of Human Services Children's Coordinating Committee, and chaired the New Jersey State Human Services Advisory Council and Executive Committee. She was a 2004 Gubernatorial appointee to the New Jersey Advisory Commission on the Status of Women, a Trustee for Virtua Health, and a Director of the Farmers and Mechanics Bank.

She has been recognized by the Alliance for the Mentally Ill as their Administrator Recognition Award recipient, as New Jersey Social Worker of the Year, has received the Humanitarian Award from the New Jersey Region of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, and the Martin Luther King Award for her work in the field of public service and human relations, among other awards too numerous to mention.

My staff and I have worked closely with her through the years for the betterment of the community, and her knowledge and compassion will be sorely missed.

I wish her a retirement filled with health, happiness and dreams come true.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT LUIS  
REYES

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sergeant Luis Reyes of Aurora, Colorado.

Sergeant Reyes died November 18, 2005 after succumbing to injuries he sustained near Ali Al Salem, Kuwait carrying out his duties in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sergeant Reyes was a member of the 947th Engineer Company, Army National Guard, Durango, Colorado and a graduate of Montbello High School in Denver.

He was just 26 years old.

According to media reports, Sergeant Reyes and other Colorado members of the Guard were carrying out a mission to help repair, improve and reconstruct damaged and inadequate infrastructure in Iraq.

Reyes was known to his friends and colleagues as dedicated to his work, his family and the mission. He was described as someone who would often, "go above and beyond" the call of duty.

He is survived by his wife, two children, father, mother and a brother.

Mr. Speaker, all Americans owe Sergeant Reyes and his family a great debt of gratitude for his service to our Nation. My deepest sympathies go out to his friends and family.

He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

IN MEMORY OF TOMMY KINCAID

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tommy Kincaid, Mayor of Sanger, Texas for nearly 10 years. Mr. Kincaid was a natural leader who loved his community and always kept its best interests at heart.

Mayor Kincaid was born June 18, 1936, in Vernon, Texas, to Carl Thomas and Lesta Hill Kincaid. He graduated from Sanger High School in 1954 and married Betty Burns on June 30, 1956, in Sanger. Mr. Kincaid worked as a postal clerk for the U.S. Postal Service in Sanger before retiring in 2001.

During the 1970s, Mr. Kincaid served on the Sanger school board. From 1983 to 1991, he served on the town's Planning and Zoning Commission and on the City Council from 1991 until his death.

Mr. Kincaid is survived by his wife, Betty; their two children, Roger Kincaid and Tammy Armstrong; and seven grandchildren.

I had the good fortune to meet Mayor Kincaid on several occasions. He introduced me at my Sanger Town Hall back in July of 2003, and he joined me on a tour of the Wal-Mart Distribution Center in Sanger.

He was a dedicated public servant and a generous individual. It was my honor to have known and worked with Mayor Tommy Kincaid. I extend my deepest sympathies to his family and friends. He will be deeply missed and his service to his community will always be greatly appreciated.

THANKING WILLIAM NORTON FOR  
HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement in December 2005, we rise to thank Mr. William Norton for over 27 years of outstanding service to the United States government, most recently here in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Bill began his legislative career as a Senate intern while attending Georgetown University. Following his graduation in 1973, he served as a Legislative Assistant to Senator Bill Brock of Tennessee, before attending law school at the College of William and Mary in Virginia.

During and after law school, Bill worked in the Congressional offices of Representatives Paul Trible of Virginia, John Rousselot of California, and Jim Jeffries of Kansas, in positions ranging from caseworker to Legislative Counsel.

In 1983 Bill began a series of increasingly responsible positions as an appointee in the administrations of Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush. He served in the General Services Administration, the President's Commission on Executive Exchange, the Office of Personnel Management, and concluded his tenure as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Force Management and Personnel during a period that included the Persian Gulf War. There he received the Air Force Meritorious Civilian Service Award, the second highest medal for which Air Force civilians are eligible.

Bill returned to service here at the House in 1995 within the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, being sworn into office on the first day of that organization's existence. He played a key role in establishing the new Office of Procurement and Purchasing where he served in a management capacity, including a year as Acting Associate Administrator. The House has seen major changes in its acquisitions process in the ensuing years including actions such as the privatization of House Postal Operations and the conversion of its purchasing system from a paper based one to an electronic one. With Bill's help, we have been able to build a procurement system that is fair, open, competitive, auditable, and which has resulted in millions of dollars in savings to the taxpayers.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Bill for his many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. Government, and in particular to the House of Representatives. His wit, his counsel, and his expertise in the procurement policies and procedures of the House will be missed by his colleagues. We wish him many wonderful years in fulfilling his retirement dreams.

TRIBUTE TO CRESTVIEW HIGH  
SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Crestview High School

Marching Band in Crestview, Florida for their remarkable performance in the 79th annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

The Big Red Machine, directed by David Cadle, was chosen as one of six high school bands to perform in the renowned parade. As everyone knows, Macy's saves the best for last with Santa Claus arriving in Herald Square. This holds true for marching bands as Crestview was honored to celebrate Santa's yearly anticipated arrival in to Herald Square, while millions of Americans were at home watching with excitement.

The band's dedication and hard work was apparent throughout the show. Awakening the holiday spirit in each and every one of us, they welcomed in the holiday season with warmth and joy as they performed a colorful rendition of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas." Watching their smiling faces as they marched into the Square reminded me of how proud I am to represent the people of North-west Florida.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize and congratulate the Crestview High School Marching Band for their outstanding performance in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

#### TRIBUTE TO LOIS BROCKMAN WELLINGTON

#### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life and accomplishments of Lois Brockman Wellington, an amazing public servant, leader, caregiver, and friend.

Lois was an exceptionally dedicated health provider, both for her family members and for the community she cared about so dearly. She became a champion of home care providers and long term care for seniors, and dedicated herself to the well-being of the aging.

As a representative of Los Angeles County in the California Senior Legislature, Lois successfully pursued legislation on behalf of both youth and the aged. She also represented U.S. Senator BARBARA BOXER as a Silver Senator to the National Silver Haired Congress. This organization holds annual meetings to discuss senior concerns and has been particularly active on social security and prescription drug policies. Lois was also President of the Congress of California Seniors. In this role, she advocated positions on numerous propositions and provided Californians with an important perspective on policy issues. She also fought for better regulation of long term care insurance policies.

I know what a dedicated advocate Lois was for senior issues because she was not only a community treasure; she was also a dear friend. She was a constant—and vocal—reminder of the importance of Medicare as a lifeline for seniors, and of Medicaid as a social safety net. She tirelessly advocated for other programs such as the Older Americans Act and one of its signature programs, Meals on Wheels. Lois was a true inspiration to me—she was active even through her golden years—and her memory will be a lasting one both to our community and to me and my family.

Lois received much well-deserved recognition for her work. In 1999, she was named Woman of the Year in the 43rd Assembly District and was appointed to the Commission on Aging by then Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa. This important commission is a principal advocate to the state on behalf of older individuals. To Lois, one of the most exciting distinctions she received occurred in 1997, when as a representative to a national senior organization, she was chosen to introduce then-President Bill Clinton. Lois also traveled widely in her role as President of the International Senior Citizens Association, attending conferences in Guadalajara, Manila, Toronto, and Dublin.

She is survived by a devoted family, including her husband of over 68 years, Frederick E. "Ted" Wellington, daughter Barbara Dunbar Erman, son Rick Wellington, grandsons Larry and Mike Erman and Edward and Peter Wellington, and great grandchildren Sean Erman and Hailey Wellington.

Lois was passionate and knowledgeable about her work, extremely energetic and an inexhaustible, wonderful, beautiful, gentle spirit. Our community is better for having known Lois, and I want to express my heartfelt condolences to her family and friends. She will be deeply, deeply missed.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF REVEREND LEANDER WILKES

#### HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Reverend Leander Wilkes, who passed away on November 24, 2005.

Leander Wilkes, the youngest of eight children, was born on September 20, 1924 in Pine Bluff, Arkansas to Jackson and Lillie Wilkes. After receiving his education in Arkansas and Ohio, he took a position with the government. In 1942 he met and later wed, Thelma Benson. To this union, five children were born, Deidre Gail, Lucy Naomi, Leonard Bruce, Jamaal Keith, and Leo Benson. He was ordained a Minister in Oakland, California in 1952. Subsequently, he was called to Ventura, California where he served as Pastor at Olivet Baptist Church for ten years. He moved to Second Baptist Church of Santa Barbara, California in 1969 and remained here for 35 years. Reverend Wilkes retired in July of 2004 and became the Pastor Emeritus of Second Baptist Church.

Reverend Wilkes was a lecturer in the Department of Black Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He enjoyed reading and researching Egyptology along with other ancient religions and philosophies. Reverend Wilkes was also an avid traveler, and fan of western television shows and movies. An excellent cook, he enjoyed preparing his specialties, gumbo and barbecue, at family gatherings. Reverend Wilkes was an active leader in our community who touched the lives of countless people. Family and friends will remember him for his integrity, wisdom and compassion.

I have known Reverend Wilkes for many years and remember fondly when he accompanied my late husband, Congressman Walter Capps, to Washington, DC in 1997, where he

led the House of Representatives in prayer. Reverend Wilkes was a dedicated husband, father, and servant to his church community and the Santa Barbara community as a whole. His longtime service to residents of the Central Coast deserves to be recognized and celebrated. I feel privileged to have known Reverend Leander Wilkes.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on H. Res. 571 on November 18, 2005 (Rollcall No. 608). Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

#### EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE THAT DEPLOYMENT OF FORCES IN IRAQ BE TERMINATED IMMEDIATELY

SPEECH OF

#### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2005*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this politically-motivated resolution. I believe this resolution does a disservice to the courage my colleague from Pennsylvania has shown in seeking to open a dialogue on one of the most important issues facing our country today—how we can be successful in Iraq while putting in place a process that begins to bring our troops home.

And let there be no mistaking my colleague's motivations. Congressman MURTHA is a highly decorated Marine veteran and a Vietnam War hero. His love for and loyalty to the brave men and women who wear our Nation's uniform is sincere. It is profound.

I agree with his characterization of the war in Iraq—specifically how errors by this administration and negligent Congressional oversight have compromised our mission there and put our troops in harm's way.

And I agree that next year must be a time of transition in Iraq, allowing Iraqis to take control of their country. America cannot support another year of "staying the course" with no end in sight, as the president continues to propose.

The time has come for the Bush administration to implement a new strategy for Iraq—one that both safely brings our troops home and brings stability and security to the country and throughout the region. To get there, we must consider the various proposals for success in the Congress.

Mr. Speaker, that is a discussion we in this body have waited far too long to have. Now is not a time for the partisanship this majority has shown in bringing this political resolution to the floor. The American people expect better from their representatives in Congress—particularly on a matter such importance. They deserve better.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 4241, DEFICIT REDUCTION  
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2005*

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot about the devastation we will cause by passing this small little act tonight. In fact, we are trying to further reform welfare and improve the system of delivery of the services and goods for those in our society who need them most.

Something that really surprises me, though, is there is really no plan from the other side. I have noticed in our hallways the Democrats' signs crying for action on the Federal deficit, but I have yet to see their plan to deal with the deficit.

Blue Dog Democrats have billboards in front of their offices declaring how much each family owes on the federal debt, but they have no plan to reduce it. There are more plans on the television show *West Wing* than the Democrats have here in the United States House of Representatives. There are more plans on the other political shows about how to deal with the problems of today, but we get no plans or help from the other side.

We need some Blue Dog Democrats that that will actually hunt. We need dogs with bite rather than a large bark. Right now all we hear is a lot of noise from the Blue Dogs, but there is no action and there is no plan. All we hear are complaints about trying to improve the system.

I will give you one quick example. In Kansas, Medicaid claims are only correct 3 out of 4 times. One out of 4 times the payment is inaccurate. We need to reform that system. You would not get on an airplane today if you had a 3 out of 4 chance of getting to your destination. You would not start a trip today if you had only a 3 out of 4 chance of getting to your destination. When we make a Medicaid payment in the State of Kansas, it is wrong 24 percent of the time. This legislation includes reform to help improve our Medicaid system, so those who are truly in need get the services they require.

But the other side doesn't want to do that. We need to pass this legislation, reform the welfare system, and do the right thing about the Federal budget.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 4434, "10,000  
TEACHERS, 10 MILLION MINDS"  
SCIENCE AND MATH SCHOLARSHIP  
ACT AND H.R. 4435, AD-  
VANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS  
AGENCY—ENERGY ACT

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing two pieces of legislation: H.R. 4434, the "10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds" Science and Math Scholarship Act and H.R. 4435, the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, ARPA-E, Act. These two bills au-

thorize a set of recommendations from a committee of the National Academy of Sciences chaired by Mr. Norman Augustine. The recommendations of the committee's report, *Rising Above the Gathering Storm: Energizing and Employing America for a Brighter Economic Future*, reflect the consensus forged among nationally-recognized industry, academic and government experts.

The Augustine Committee's highest priority is to improve K-12 math and science education by enhancing the skills and qualifications of math and science teachers. The "10,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds" Act establishes a National Science Foundation, NSF, program to award scholarships to science, math, and engineering students if they obtain their teaching certification and commit to becoming math and science teachers upon completing their degrees. The bill also authorizes NSF to establish a master's degree program for in-service science and math teachers and establish training programs for preparing science and math teachers to teach Advanced Placement, AP, and International Baccalaureate, IB, courses in science and math. In addition, legislation also authorizes summer teacher training institutes at NSF and the Department of Energy.

The Augustine Committee stressed the need to "sustain and strengthen the nation's traditional commitment to the long-term basic research that has the potential to be transformational to maintain the flow of new ideas that fuel the economy, provide security, and enhance the quality of life." One specific action recommended by the Augustine Committee is to create in the Department of Energy, DOE, an organization like the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, DARPA, at the Department of Defense. My second piece of legislation, the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, ARPA-E, Act implements this key recommendation. It establishes within the DOE a new agency modeled after DoD's successful DARPA program. By supporting high-risk, potentially high-payoff research, ARPA-E will turn cutting-edge science and engineering into technologies for energy and environmental application with the goal of reducing the Nation's reliance of foreign energy sources by 20 percent during the next 10 years.

These two bills are a response to a serious challenge to our Nation's future economic prosperity. From the Augustine report, "This Nation must prepare with great urgency to preserve its strategic and economic security. Because other Nation's have, and probably will continue to have, the competitive advantage of a low-wage structure, the United States must compete by optimizing its knowledge-based resources, particularly in science and technology, and by sustaining the most fertile environment for new and revitalized industries and the well-paying jobs they bring. We have already seen that capital, factories, and laboratories readily move wherever they are thought to have the greatest return." I fully acknowledge that these two bills together would require a sizable amount of funds to implement fully. Given the stakes, I believe we must find a way to make this investment in our Nation's future. The authorization levels are based upon the National Academy of Sciences estimates of the funding levels required to implement the recommendations in its report.

The Augustine Report correctly identifies the challenges we face as a nation and has developed a series of specific recommendations to address these challenges. Today's *Washington Post*, includes the op-ed *Learning to Lose? Our Education System Isn't Ready for a World of Competition* by Mr. Norman Augustine which highlights the urgency of taking immediate actions and the consequences if we don't. I have included Mr. Augustine's op-ed in this statement.

My intent in introducing these two bills is to issue a call for action by the Congress and the administration. The conclusions and recommendations in this report are not new. The problem is that neither the administration nor Congress has made any real efforts to act. I hope the introduction of these two bills will begin a substantive discussion on the commitment and resources required to ensure our Nation's future economic competitiveness and that our children have access to well-paid, challenging jobs.

I am committed to working with the private-sector, Members of Congress and the administration in turning this legislation into funded programs.

[From the *Washington Post*, Dec. 6, 2005]

LEARNING TO LOSE? OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM  
ISN'T READY FOR A WORLD OF COMPETITION

(By Norman R. Augustine)

In the five decades since I began working in the aerospace industry, I have never seen American business and academic leaders as concerned about this nation's future prosperity as they are today.

On the surface, these concerns may seem unwarranted. Two million jobs were created in the United States in the past year. Citizens of other nations continue to invest their savings in this country at a remarkable rate. Our nation still has the strongest scientific and technological enterprise—and the best research universities—in the world.

But deeper trends in this country and abroad are signs of a gathering storm. After the Cold War, nearly 3 billion potential new capitalists entered the job market. A substantial portion of our workforce now finds itself in direct competition for jobs with highly motivated and often well-educated people from around the world. Workers in virtually every economic sector now face competitors who live just a mouse click away in Ireland, Finland, India, China, Australia and dozens of other nations.

Soon the only jobs that will not be open to worldwide competition are those that require near physical contact between the parties to a transaction. Visitors to an office not far from the White House are greeted by a receptionist on a flat-screen display that controls access to the building and arranges contacts; she is in Pakistan. U.S. companies each morning receive software that was written in India overnight in time to be tested in the United States and returned to India for further refinement that same evening. Drawings for American architectural firms are produced in Brazil. Call-center employees in India are being taught to speak with a Midwestern accent.

This movement of U.S. jobs to other countries has few natural limits. Manufacturing jobs were the first to go, but jobs developing software and conducting various design activities soon followed. Administrative and support jobs are starting to move overseas, and even "high-end" jobs such as professional services, research and management are threatened.

Other nations will continue to have the advantage of lower wages, so the United States

must compete on the basis of its strengths. Throughout the 20th century, one of these strengths was our knowledge-based resources—particularly science and technology. But the scientific and technological foundations of our economic leadership are eroding at a time when many other nations are building their innovative capacity.

This nation's trade balance in high-technology goods swung from a positive flow of \$33 billion in 1990 to a negative flow of \$24 billion in 2003. Two years from now, for the first time ever, the most capable high-energy particle accelerator in the world will be outside the United States. Low-wage employers in this country, such as McDonald's and Wal-Mart, create many more jobs than do high-wage employers. In 2001 U.S. industry spent more on tort litigation and related costs than on research and development.

Today, high-technology firms have to be on the leading edge of scientific and technological progress to survive. Intel Corp. Chairman Craig Barrett has said that 90 percent of the products his company delivers on the final day of each year did not exist on the first day of the same year. To succeed in that kind of marketplace, U.S. firms need employees who are flexible, knowledgeable, and scientifically and mathematically literate.

But the U.S. educational system is failing in precisely those areas that underpin our competitiveness: science, engineering and mathematics. In a recent international test involving mathematical understanding, U.S. students finished 27th among the participating nations. In China and Japan, 59 percent and 66 percent, respectively, of undergraduates receive their degrees in science and engineering, compared with 32 percent in the United States.

I've recently had an opportunity to review these trends as chairman of a 20-member committee created by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine. Congress asked the committee to examine the threats to America's future prosperity. The panel was a diverse group that included university presidents, Nobel laureates, heads of companies and former government officials. We agreed unanimously that the United States faces a serious and intensifying economic challenge from abroad—and that we appear to be on a losing path.

Our committee emphasized that the United States needs to focus on fundamentals. We recommended the recruitment of 10,000 new science and math teachers each year through the awarding of competitive scholarships. The skills of a quarter-million current teachers should be improved through enhanced training and education. We recommended establishing 25,000 competitive science, mathematics, engineering and technology undergraduate scholarships and 5,000 graduate fellowships.

To boost scientific and technological innovation, we recommended that the U.S. government increase research funding by 10 percent annually over the next several years, with primary attention devoted to the physical sciences, engineering, mathematics and information sciences. We urged the federal government to create an Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy (ARPA-E), modeled after the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, which would support out-of-the-box, transformative research aimed at ending our crippling dependence on foreign sources of energy. We asked the government to provide permanent tax incentives for U.S.-based innovation.

The United States wants other nations to do well economically. Broadly based prosperity can make the world more stable and safer for all. What worries business leaders is

that the United States could easily fall behind as the rest of the world prospers.

## WORLD DAY FOR PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the International Child Abuse Network. This wonderful organization works worldwide to break the cycle of violence that leads abused children to grow up to become abusers.

The International Child Abuse Network, also known as Yes ICAN, is a leading global provider of information and resources to deal with child abuse. Yes ICAN believes that child abuse would cease to exist if everyone had the capability to receive accurate, up-to-date information about abuse. Yes ICAN provides assistance and support to survivors who are too afraid or wounded to utilize traditional community resources. Through online forums, victims can heal together in a confidential, mutually supportive atmosphere.

In an effort to bring more awareness to the effects of child abuse on societies around the world, every November 19th Yes ICAN recognizes the World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse. This year's event featured a showcase of art and poetry submissions from schoolchildren. Participants and their teachers were honored during a reception at the Canoga Park Youth Arts Center in my district in California.

The International Child Abuse Network is making positive strides in the fight against child abuse. Their work to create a better future for all children is to be commended. I am proud to congratulate the International Child Abuse Network and thank them for their valuable contributions.

## CONGRATULATING MR. DAVID L. BRANT

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a dedicated law enforcement official at the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, David L. Brant, who is retiring after 28 years of service with NCIS.

Mr. Brant graduated with a master's degree in criminology from Indiana State University in 1975. He began his law enforcement career as a police officer with the Dade County Metropolitan Public Safety Department in Miami, Florida. In 1977, he accepted an offer from the Naval Investigative Service and began his service as a Special Agent assigned to NISRA Norfolk, VA on January 31, 1977. During his 4 years in the Norfolk area, Director Brant served in 4 different NIS offices and also completed an assignment as Special Agent Afloat aboard the USS *Independence*.

Following his assignment as a Special Agent Afloat, Director Brant transferred to the Philippines to become the Special Operations

Squad Leader from 1981–1983. He then was assigned to the Headquarters Training Division as the Executive Assistant to the Director, and then was the Special Agent in Charge at NISRA Mayport. He returned to the Philippines in 1989 to serve as the Deputy Regional Director for the NCIS Southeast Asia Region. In 1991 he returned to NCIS Headquarters and holding various positions until he was appointed to the Senior Executive Service and was selected as the Assistant Director for Counterintelligence. Mr. Brant served in that capacity until he succeeded Roy D. Nedrow as Director in May 1997.

Mr. Brant has been widely recognized within the Department of the Navy, the Department of Defense, and the Federal law enforcement community for his innovative and transformational approaches to enhancing law enforcement and counterintelligence capabilities. He led NCIS in developing and implementing operational strategies, established the Counterterrorism Directorate, and built the Multiple Threat Alert Center (MTAC) to specifically enhance NCIS's ability to counter threats facing the Navy and Marine Corps.

During his career, Mr. Brant has been recognized as an outstanding leader by multiple organizations. His awards include the Department of Defense Presidential Rank Award and the Department of the Navy Distinguished Service Award. Additionally, in 2004 he was awarded the Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association (HAPCOA) Aguila Award for Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and the Outstanding Advocate for Women in Federal Law Enforcement Award from the Women in Federal Law Enforcement (WIFLE).

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to congratulate Mr. David L. Brant for his service to our country. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding his past accomplishments and wishing him and his wife, Merri Jo, and children Emily and Andrew, the best of luck in all future endeavors.

## EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE THAT DEPLOYMENT OF FORCES IN IRAQ BE TERMINATED IMMEDIATELY

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2005*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, in the other body, the junior member from Massachusetts delivered compelling remarks about Congressman MURTHA. I believe that it would be to the benefit of all of my colleagues to hear Senator KERRY's comments.

Yesterday, Jack Murtha, a respected congressman on military matters, and former Marine Drill Sergeant and decorated Vietnam veteran, spoke out on our policy in Iraq. He didn't come to that moment lightly. He spoke his mind and spoke his heart out of love for his country and support for our troops. I am not going to stand for a swift boat attack strategy against Jack Murtha.

It disgusts me that a bunch of guys who have never put on the uniform of their country venomously turn their guns on a marine who served his country heroically in Vietnam and has been serving heroically in Congress ever since.



No matter what J.D. Hayworth says, there is no sterner stuff than the backbone and courage that defines Jack Murtha's character and conscience.

Dennis Hastert—the Speaker of the House who never served—called Jack Murtha a coward and accused him of wanting to cut and run. Well let me tell you, Jack Murtha wasn't a coward when he put himself in harm's way for his country in Vietnam and earned two purple hearts—he was a patriot then, and he is a patriot today. Jack Murtha didn't cut and run when his courage in combat earned him a Bronze Star, and his voice should be heard, not silenced by those who still today cut and run from the truth.

Just a day after Dick Cheney, who had 5 deferments from Vietnam, accused Democrats of being unpatriotic—the White House accused Jack Murtha of surrendering. Jack Murtha served 37 years in the Marine Corps. He doesn't know how to surrender—not to enemy combatants, and not to politicians in Washington who say speaking his conscience is unpatriotic.

Robert Kennedy once said, 'The sharpest criticism often goes hand in hand with the deepest idealism and love of country.' Chuck Hagel showed he hasn't forgotten that when he said, 'The Bush administration must understand that each American has a right to question our policies in Iraq and should not be demonized for disagreeing with them.' But too many in the Republican Party forgot that long ago. They forgot that asking tough questions isn't pessimism; it's patriotism.

We've seen the politics of fear and smear too many times. Whenever challenged, Republican leaders engage in the politics of personal destruction rather than debate the issues. It doesn't matter who you are. When they did it to John McCain, we saw it doesn't matter what political party you're in. When they did it to Max Cleland, we saw it doesn't matter if your service put you in a wheelchair. And when they did it to Jack Murtha yesterday, perhaps the most respected voice on military matters in all of Congress, we saw that this administration will go to any lengths to crush any dissent.

Once again, they're engaged in the lowest form of smear and fear politics because they're afraid of actually debating a senior congressman who has advised presidents of both parties on how to best defend our country. They're afraid to debate a decorated veteran who lives and breathes the concerns of our troops, not the empty slogans of an Administration that sent our brave troops to war without body armor. They're terrified of actually leveling with the American people about the way they misled America into war, and admitting they have no clear plan to finish the job and get our troops home.

#### RIDING ROUGHSHOD OVER RIGHTS IN BELARUS

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as co-chairman of the Helsinki Commission and the sponsor of the Belarus Democracy Act, I remain deeply concerned about the violations of human rights occurring every day in Lukashenka's Belarus.

During a recent news conference, the autocratic Belarusian leader expressed confidence in his victory in the presidential election scheduled for next year, rhetorically asking why should he be rigging this election. Given his

intensified assault on civil society, his dismal human rights record, and penchant for rigged elections, Mr. Lukashenka's statements ring hollow. Yet, Lukashenka's actions against democratic forces, non-governmental organizations and the independent media belie his stated confidence regarding electoral victory.

Last week, the lower chamber of Lukashenka's pocket parliament passed a law endorsing tougher new penalties for activities "directed against people and public security," a proposal submitted to the parliament only days before passage. These changes to the Criminal Code increase penalties for participation in organizations that were liquidated or warned to stop their pro-democratic activities, or for the training and other preparations for unauthorized demonstrations or other civic actions.

Mr. Speaker, to cite just one of the draconian provisions, the Code now gives authorities the leeway to jail an individual for up to 2 years for "providing a foreign country, a foreign or international organization with patently false information about the political, economic, social, military, and international situation of the Republic of Belarus." Putting aside the matter of such a provision violating free speech norms, if the past is any guide, it is clear who would be the arbiter of what constitutes "false information." There can be no doubt that the law aims to stifle the democratic opposition, and the head of the KGB (yes, in Belarus it is still called the KGB) himself recently admitted that the reasons for the law is to discourage street protests during the upcoming presidential race.

This law, while particularly blatant, is part and parcel of other actions designed to strengthen the regime's control and deny the Belarusian people any alternative voices as the presidential election campaign unfolds. Last month, a new law further controlling political parties came into force. A recent Council of Ministers decree clamps down on organizations that conduct public opinion polls. A Lukashenka decree further discriminates against independent trade unions, stipulating that only trade unions belonging to the pro-governmental federation are granted the right to premises at no cost. Yet another decree considerably limits students' opportunities to travel abroad.

Meanwhile, opposition activists are routinely beaten up or detained. Just last week, for instance, Ales Kalita was detained and at the hands of the police suffered a dislocated arm for merely distributing the independent newspaper "Narodna Volya". Viktor Syritsya, a lecturer at Baranavichi College was fired for organizing a meeting of students with presidential opposition candidate Alexander Milinkevich. Belarusian State Economic University in Minsk expelled fourth-year student Tatsyana Khoma because she took a brief trip to France, where she was elected to the executive committee of the Brussels-based National Unions of Students in Europe (ESIB), an umbrella organization of 44 national student unions from 34 countries. The police beat activist Mikita Sasim. They detained youth activists Yauhen Afanagel and others. Other repressive actions include frequent arrests of activists of democratic youth movements such as ZUBR, a ban on worship by some religious congregations and other repressive actions against selected religious minorities, and continued harassment of members of the Union of Poles in Belarus.

Moreover, there is an emerging pattern of the regime putting obstacles in the way of Mr. Milinkevich. Recently, a public meeting he held in Borbuisk was disrupted by the authorities, with participants being told by the authorities to go home and threatened with tax inspections. During a press conference, the electricity in the room was cut off, as well as a "hot-line" phone with town residents.

Especially egregious has been the regime's intensification of the war against the already repressed and struggling independent media. Newspaper closures, suspensions, threats, and exorbitant and absurd libel fines, pressures on advertisers and other forms of harassment have become routine. Outright police confiscations of independent newspapers are also not uncommon. A seemingly more subtle tactic, implemented just a few weeks ago, involved the decision by Belarus' monopoly state postal service to stop delivery to subscribers of a dozen private periodicals. Meanwhile, the suspicious murder in 2004 of journalist Veronika Charkasova has not been resolved. Authorities have refused to open a criminal investigation into journalist Vasil Hrodnikau's death. Lukashenka himself recently admitted to Russian journalists that his regime applies very serious pressure on the media, somewhat incongruously adding that "this does not mean I am crushing them."

Mr. Speaker, what I have cited is by no means an exhaustive list of abuses perpetrated by the Lukashenka regime, merely a sampling of the types of repressive actions employed on a daily basis by Europe's last dictator. As Helsinki Commission Co-Chair, I will continue to monitor closely and speak out forcefully regarding these and other violations of Belarus' freely undertaken OSCE commitments. I urge the Bush Administration to step up efforts to break the Lukashenka regime's near monopoly over the country's information space and provide timely assistance to pro-democracy forces in Belarus.

It is clear that Mr. Lukashenka and his minions are laying the groundwork for yet another un-free and unfair election—similar to the 2001 presidential elections and the 2000 and 2004 parliamentary elections—that will fall far short of OSCE standards. Lukashenka is once again showing that, despite his confident rhetoric, he fears his own people and profoundly fails to respect their dignity as citizens and as human beings.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR SAVING ITS MEMBERS FROM DANGEROUS DRUGS VIOXX AND CELEBREX

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Veterans Affairs buys drugs for about half the market price, saving the American taxpayer billions of dollars. It does this by insisting on the best price offered to other customers, by negotiating for further discounts, and by moving market share through the use of a formulary or preferred drug list.

The formulary is an excellent one that provides Veterans with the drugs they need that are safe and effective.

This formulary is under attack by 'think tanks' that may receive a lot of money from drug companies. PhRMA wants to convince the American public that, like the children of Lake Wobegon, all drugs are above average and should be readily available to be marketed to all Americans at whatever price the companies want to charge. The fact is, most drugs—about 80 to 85 percent in recent years—are me-too drugs: copies of stuff already on the market that bring little or nothing new to the fight against diseases. There is no need to cover all these drugs on a formulary. Rather, by using a formulary to list only the safest, most effective drugs, a buyer can obtain huge discounts from the companies. An exceptions and appeals process can ensure that in those rare cases where a non-formulary drug is needed, it will be available.

Listing all new drugs on a formulary can also be dangerous, because many drugs are approved after only six months or so of testing on a few thousand people or less. As doctor and Senator FRIST has said, there should be a 2 year moratorium on the mass advertising of new drugs, because we really don't know how safe they are. Vioxx and Celebrex are classic examples of drugs that added little new but have unacceptable risks.

The VA formulary never listed Vioxx and Celebrex. Good for them. Vioxx alone has been estimated to have caused up to 40,000 unnecessary deaths and another 100,000 heart attacks or strokes.

But the Manhattan Institute has just published a paper by a Frank R. Lichtenberg who says he is a Professor at Columbia University's School of Business. The thesis of the paper is that because the VA does not immediately cover every drug, like Vioxx and Celebrex, veterans are starting to die earlier. The Professor includes in his paper one of the most hilarious, or saddest examples of sophistry I've ever seen. He plots on a graph the life expectancy at birth of all males, and shows it rising from 72 years in 1991 to 74.5 years in 2002. He also plots veterans' life expectancy, which rises from about 77.6 years to 80.5 years by 2004. But then he does something that, if he were a student, would earn an "F". He superimposes the two life expectancy lines in different colors on the same chart but uses different vertical lines to represent the two different populations. The Veterans' axis on the left starts at 77.0 years and rises to 81.5 years. The life expectancy at birth of all males axis on the right side of the chart starts at 70.5 and rises to 75.0. By doing this, he makes it appear to the quick scanner or casual reader (i.e., most of us), that Veterans are dying sooner than the rest of American males. Instead, Veterans are living 6 years longer.

The Professor deserves an "F"—and so does the drug industry for trying to libel the VA drug system.

We need a system like the VA's for Medicare. It would save us hundreds of billions of dollars in the years to come—and save us from the Vioxx's of the future.

## NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK STATEMENT

**HON. W. TODD AKIN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, it was my great pleasure to serve this year as the Congressional Co-chair for the House of Representatives for National Bible Week, November 20 through November 27, 2005.

The Bible was foundational to development of our country. The English Puritans came to the New World to follow the Bible according to the convictions of their own consciences. Of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence, 24 had what today would be considered Bible college or seminary educations. Only a few years later, in 1782, Congress itself authorized the printing of the Bible.

The Bible has found its way into everything from casual conversation—expressions like "by the sweat of your brow" and "the salt of the earth" and myriad others all come from Scripture—to the landscape of America. From Corinth, Maine to Bethel, Alaska, the Bible has marked our national map.

More than any map, however, the Bible has marked who we are as a people. Earlier generations of Americans almost inhaled the words of Scripture as they inhaled the air. To read the inaugural addresses of our Presidents, from George Washington to George W. Bush, is to read repeated allusions to or quotations of biblical texts.

The Bible speaks to the uniqueness of man—that we are all made in the image and likeness of God. It speaks of the greatness of God—that He is the object of true worship, the fount of all blessings and the Redeemer, Lawgiver, Friend, Savior and Judge.

Historically, we have been a people of the Book. We lose our allegiance to and our reliance on the Bible to our grave peril.

The Bible can be hard to understand. Yet as the theologian R.C. Sproul has written, "We fail in our duty to study God's Word not so much because it is difficult to understand, not so much because it is dull and boring, but because it is work."

And it is worthwhile work. There can be nothing nobler than seeking not only to know the Bible's teachings but to know the Bible's God.

It was President Lincoln who said, "I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man. All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated to us through this book." Or, as Jesus Himself remarked, "Search the Scriptures . . . for they testify of Me."

Today, Mr. Speaker, I echo Abraham Lincoln's comments and urge my colleagues and all Americans to reacquire themselves with the Bible. As literature, it is unmatched. As philosophy, it is unparalleled. And as truth, it will make you free.

I commend the National Bible Association for its outstanding work to bring the Bible to the attention of all Americans of every faith and creed. And I am humbled by the opportunity to serve in such a way as to draw attention to this most precious of books.

## TRIBUTE TO JOHN B. GABUSI

**HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John B. Gabusi, an Arizona native known nationally and internationally, who retired September 30 as Vice Chancellor of Pima Community College.

Mr. Gabusi was an accomplished administrator who brought excitement, enthusiasm and excellence to his endeavors and his relationships. He possesses a superior intellect, is extremely well informed, and has an amazing ability to analyze information quickly and accurately. He is a compassionate human being with a particular affection for the less fortunate. He extends his help quietly, hoping only that others will overcome obstacles and achieve success.

Mr. Gabusi joined Pima College in 1991. He established the economic development office, then moved on to create a government relations program. From there, he undertook a myriad of successful activities for the College. Among his other remarkable achievements was a marketing campaign that increased the school's enrollment by 30 percent over a five-year period and a counseling-mentor program that increased the number of area high school graduates who enrolled at Pima by more than 60 percent over a three-year period.

Mr. Gabusi grew up in the mining town of Clifton. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Arizona in 1964, and was studying for a Ph.D. in political science when, in 1966, he and classmate Earl deBerge created a Tucson polling firm known as Survey Research Associates. He departed the partnership in 1968 to join the staff of U.S. Representative Morris K. Udall, whose congressional district then encompassed the entire State outside of Phoenix and Maricopa County. His friend deBerge continued the firm, which now is based in Phoenix and known as the Behavior Research Center Inc.

He spent 23 years away from Arizona, most of the time in Washington, DC.

Mr. Gabusi walked the halls of Congress as a Udall aide, and served as Udall's principal staffer for the Postal Reorganization Act of 1971, the first step toward today's independent postal system. Mr. Gabusi managed four of Udall's congressional campaigns and directed the congressman's attempted bid for the 1976 Democratic Presidential nomination.

President Jimmy Carter reached out for his help in 1977, appointing Mr. Gabusi as Assistant Director for Management and Budget of the Community Services Administration. He oversaw a \$2 billion annual budget at an agency with 1,800 employees between Washington and 10 regional offices.

Two years later, President Carter chose Mr. Gabusi for another major position: Assistant Secretary for Management in the fledgling Department of Education. Among other things, he managed the inter-agency task force that designed and implemented all of the required systems to create the Cabinet-level department.

Both jobs required Senate confirmation and Mr. Gabusi was one of a handful of appointees to undergo that process on two occasions.



With the 1981 change in administrations, Mr. Gabusi departed government service for private enterprise. He spent 2 years as General Manager of Rural Ventures Inc., the economic development arm of Control Data Corporation of Minneapolis.

He returned to Washington in 1983, and spent the next 8 years as an economic development consultant on a national and international basis.

His emphasis was on providing technical assistance to foreign ministries, and special contracts, primarily from the U.S. Agency for International Development, sent him to El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Panama. He also consulted with the governments of Egypt and Poland, and played a major role in establishing Poland's first retail banking system.

Back home, Mr. Gabusi provided economic development and government expertise to small businesses, Indian tribal councils, small cities and towns and one federal agency, the Economic Development Administration.

Mr. Gabusi has been struggling with renal cell cancer for nearly 3 years and it was with regret that he retired from Pima College. He was a positive and progressive force at the college and in every other venture he undertook.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 4241, DEFICIT REDUCTION  
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2005*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, earlier I spoke about how this legislation is out of step with mainstream American values. I would like to submit for the RECORD the text of a letter sent to every Member of the House from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops reflecting the misguided values that this bill embodies.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT AND WORLD PEACE,  
Washington, DC, November 8, 2005.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: When Congress began the process of developing the 2006 budget for the United States government last February, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops president Bishop William Skylstad urged Members of Congress to remember that budget "decisions will reflect not only economic policies but moral choices as well," and urged Congress "to give priority attention in the budget to the needs of poor and vulnerable people both here and abroad."

As the House now takes up its budget reconciliation bill, we write to reiterate the Conference's priorities and to share our views on how that bill may impact several key programs and the people they serve. We are guided by Catholic moral principles: respect for human life and dignity; the importance of family and the value of work; an option for the poor and the call to participation; and the principles of subsidiarity and solidarity. We also draw upon the Church's experience living with, and serving the poor among us. As perhaps the largest non-governmental provider of health care and

human services to vulnerable people, the Catholic community meets the poor in our soup kitchens, Catholic Charities agencies and health care facilities.

We are deeply disappointed by the budget reconciliation proposal before the House of Representatives, in particular, its lack of concern for children. Below are specific examples of programs that serve vulnerable people—often children—that will lose funds if this legislation passes in its current form.

**Food Stamp Program:** The House reconciliation bill includes harmful cuts to the Food Stamp program that will result in taking food away from people, including children, who are being helped now. This would be objectionable anytime, but it is particularly unfair at this time. Recently, USDA reported an increase to 38 million in the number of Americans suffering from hunger or living in homes that are on the edge of hunger. This includes nearly 14 million children. Nearly 300,000 people in low-income working families will lose Food Stamp assistance if this bill becomes law and some 40,000 children in those families will no longer be eligible for free school meals. Many of those denied Food Stamps will be legal immigrants. We were strong supporters of President Bush's successful effort to expand access to Food Stamps for legal immigrants in the last farm bill. We strongly oppose the effort to roll back this expansion, by making legal immigrants wait an additional 2 years for eligibility.

**Health Care for the Poor:** We recognize and affirm the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death and consider access to adequate health care to be a basic human right. No person should be denied access to needed health care because of inability to pay. We oppose the provisions in the bill that would allow states to increase the burden of co-payments, deductibles and premiums on Medicaid beneficiaries—including some children and pregnant women. Health care providers would be allowed to deny services to those who cannot pay these amounts. Another proposal would allow states wide latitude to choose which medical services it will offer to different groups of low-income people. It is important to maintain a federal standard of core benefits, necessary for the maintenance of good health, to which all Medicaid beneficiaries are entitled.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that these provisions will save \$6.2 billion over five years (and \$28.2 billion over ten years), precisely because they will cause people eligible for Medicaid to get less of the health care they need. This attempt to save money by making it harder for low-income and vulnerable people to get the health care they need is simply unacceptable.

**Temporary Assistance for Needy Families:** The House reconciliation bill includes the House bill to reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) welfare program. We reiterate our concern that the House approach to TANF reauthorization increases the work requirements on all TANF recipients, generally single mothers, and repeals the rule allowing a lower work requirement for mothers of children under 6 years old. While the House reconciliation bill does include small increases in child care funding, the amount is insufficient to pay for current child care services given inflation, let alone cover the need for additional child care created by increasing the TANF work requirements. We are also disappointed that the bill does not restore TANF benefit eligibility to recently-arrived legal immigrants. However, we note our support for funding programs—separate from the basic block grant—to promote marriage and healthy families (although we believe it would be better to target this spending on marriage and family services for low-income families).

**Child Support Funds:** The House reconciliation bill cuts Federal funding for state child support services which will make it harder for states to collect child support for low and moderate-income families. According to CBO estimates, over the course of ten years families could receive \$21 billion less in child support payments. Child support payments can be crucial to the economic viability of some families, keeping them out of poverty and off public programs. They also encourage parental responsibility and can help to maintain the connection between children and their non-custodial parent. Undermining the collection of child support is not good for children or families.

**Agricultural Programs:** We are disappointed that the reconciliation bill reduces spending on key conservation programs. The bishops have stated that protecting God's creation must be a central goal of agricultural policies, and our conference supports policies that promote soil conservation, improve water quality, protect wildlife, and maintain biodiversity.

The bishops' conference also endorses targeting limited government resources for direct federal payments and other forms of domestic agricultural support to small and moderate-sized farms, to help them through difficult times caused by periodic price shocks or unpredictable natural disasters, such as the recent hurricanes. Limiting U.S. farm supports and targeting them to those who need them the most would also increase the possibility that poor farmers around the world would be able to sell their products and support their families. We would welcome efforts to begin the process of redirecting agricultural subsidies to those most in need.

We urge you to remember that the federal budget is more than a fiscal plan; it reflects our values as a people. Budget choices have clear moral and human dimensions. A just society is one that protects and promotes the fundamental rights of its members—with special attention to meeting the basic needs, including the need for safe and affordable health care, of the poor and underserved. In these difficult times, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops urges you to work for a budget that does not neglect the needs of the "least of these" in our nation and the world.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Most Rev. NICHOLAS  
DiMARZIO,  
Bishop of Brooklyn,  
Chairman, Domestic  
Policy Committee.  
Most Rev. JOHN RICARD,  
SSJ,  
Bishop of Pensacola-  
Tallahassee, Chair-  
man, International  
Policy Committee.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 4241, DEFICIT REDUCTION  
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOE BARTON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2005*

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the value of finding additional spectrum

below 1 GHz for unlicensed devices to meet the growing consumer demand for robust wireless broadband connections. As outlined in the committee report, the Federal Communications Commission should evaluate whether the presence of unlicensed devices operating in the broadcast television bands will produce harmful interference to television stations broadcasting in that band.

Unlicensed devices that utilize spectrum below 1 GHz could be used by neighbors who want to communicate with each other, by wireless Internet providers who want to improve their coverage, or by other service providers who want to expand their capabilities. Unlicensed use of these bands has the potential to foster additional broadband competition, technological innovation, and economic development. In addition, wireless broadband devices can be deployed rapidly in areas where wireline communications infrastructure has been wiped away, such as has occurred during recent disasters. I agree that the FCC should act expeditiously on this proceeding, and we were therefore pleased to provide the FCC with a deadline to complete its work.

HONORING DAVID MITCHELL ON  
HIS CAMPAIGN TO BE ELECTED  
TO THE CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY  
LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 8

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor David Mitchell, a resident of Chautauqua County for his quest to become the elected representative to the eighth legislative district in Chautauqua County Legislature. Although Mr. Mitchell was not able to realize his dream he has been able to make an impact on other's lives in a different way.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Mitchell traveled that path with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the voters of district 8.

David Mitchell is a former Jamestown police officer that was wounded while on duty. Through his courage and determination to rise above his injuries David has made a tremendous recovery. It is inspiring to see a man with such conviction to better his community run for public office.

Chautauqua County is blessed to have such strong candidates with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Mitchell is one of those people and that is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

HONORING DAVE SMITH, NEW-  
ARK'S RECENTLY RE-ELECTED  
MAYOR

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Newark, CA's Mayor Dave Smith. His

recent re-election makes him the second longest serving mayor in the country as he embarks on his 28th consecutive year of service.

Mayor Smith began his career in public service as the Fremont chapter president of the Jaycees, a fraternal business group. He then ran for, and was elected to, the Newark city council in 1976. Two years later he was elected Mayor, where he has remained ever since.

During his tenure, Newark has become a model for the country to follow. It has a \$35 million surplus, a low crime rate, beautiful parks and well-maintained streets. Newark city council meetings are efficient and exemplify Mayor Smith's ability to build consensus among the city's leadership.

He has steered Newark through the dot-com boom and bust, avoiding the common pitfalls that plague many other cities. His plans for managed growth have allowed Newark to thrive. Also, he is a respected governmental figure—not an easy trick for a Republican representing a city that is registered 55 percent Democratic.

Smith's nickname, Mr. Newark, is well deserved. With an easy style prone to practical jokes and trombone solos, he has become an accomplished politician, a beloved public servant and a committed member of his community.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dave Smith's dedicated commitment to the city he serves. His ability to lead Newark, one of the jewels of the East Bay, is unquestionable and I for one hope he continues to serve for another 28 years.

RECOGNITION OF PRESIDENT MAR-  
GARET A. MCKENNA'S 20 YEARS  
OF LEADERSHIP AT LESLEY UNI-  
VERSITY

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Margaret A. McKenna, president of Lesley University since December 4, 1985.

Dr. McKenna became president of Lesley College 20 years ago and her leadership has created Lesley University, with a School of Education, a Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, an Art Institute and the School of Integrative and Experiential Studies. Over these two decades, Lesley University's enrollment, endowment and programmatic reach have each expanded dramatically. While these achievements would be laudable on their own for any university president, they are only a portion of the success Dr. McKenna has fostered at Lesley University.

Dr. McKenna has placed a very strong emphasis on educating our educators. Under her stewardship, Lesley has grown to be the Commonwealth of Massachusetts's largest producer of new teachers. Lesley has also become one of the largest providers of graduate professional education to classroom teachers in the Nation. The faculty and students have become an important resource to local public school districts. This is due, in no small part, to her commitment to pioneering on-line and distance learning. With President McKenna's imprimatur, Lesley University has placed many re-

sources and much energy toward providing quality education for teachers specializing in the hard sciences.

President McKenna has also used her position as the head of a leading university to call attention to important causes. One need only glance at her published work to know she sees education as an opportunity to build a citizen, not just a student. Clearly, from her perspective, there is no civics topic that is not enmeshed with higher education.

In closing, I salute President Margaret McKenna for 20 years of outstanding leadership and vision.

STATEMENT HONORING SFC  
RICHARD SCHILD

**HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I am saddened to report the passing of SFC Richard Schild. He was killed while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The lives of countless people were enormously enhanced by Richard's goodwill and service. He inspired all those who knew him. Our Nation is a far better place because of his life. All Americans owe Richard, and the other soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom, a tremendous debt of gratitude for their service.

Every Member of the House of Representatives has taken a solemn oath to defend the constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. While we certainly understand the gravity of the issues facing this legislative body, Richard lived that commitment to our country. Today, we remember and honor his noble service to the United States and the ultimate sacrifice he has paid with his life to defend our freedoms and foster liberty for others.

Mr. Speaker, I express my sympathies to the family and friends of SFC Richard Schild. I believe the best way to honor him is to emulate his commitment to our country. I know he will always be missed, but his service to our Nation will never be forgotten.

HONORING NANCY PETRUCCELLO  
ON HER CAMPAIGN TO BE  
ELECTED TO THE CHAUTAUQUA  
COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT  
10

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy Petrucello, a resident of Chautauqua County, for her quest to become the elected representative to the 10th legislative district in the Chautauqua County Legislature. Although Ms. Petrucello was not able to realize her dream, she has been able to make an impact on others' lives in a different way.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Ms. Petrucello traveled that path with her head held high and a smile on her face the entire

way. I have no doubt that her kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the voters of district 10.

Nancy Petruccello has served as a voting machine custodian for many of the Jamestown voting machines. Even though she was running her own campaign this year, Nancy still found the time to serve as the custodian.

Nancy Petruccello is an amazing woman who ran a tremendous campaign. Many do not realize this, but Ms. Petruccello ran her campaign while dealing with the trials of having a brain tumor. She clearly loves her county and wanted to do what is best for it at any cost.

Chautauqua County is blessed to have such strong candidates with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Ms. Petruccello is one of those people and that is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor her today.

HONORING AL HUEZO, CITY  
MANAGER OF NEWARK, CA

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the city of Newark, CA's extraordinary city manager, Alberto "Al" T. Huezo. After a long and illustrious career, he will retire on December 30, 2005.

He was hired by the city on July 1, 1974 and promoted to the position of city manager on July 1, 1996. For the last 9 years, City Manager Huezo has guided Newark in an exemplary fashion. He defines his position as city manager as "the chief executive officer of an organization that provides municipal services." He emphasizes the word services and describes his role also as "an ambassador for the organization, someone who actively markets and promotes that organization to people on the outside, potential customers and certainly customers within." During his tenure as city manager he never lost his focus on service.

When asked how he would like to be remembered, Mr. Huezo responded "as a man who didn't take himself too seriously, someone who did his job with passion and gusto." Among his legacies to the city is the development of Newark's Silliman Center, a modern multi-purpose community center, and maintaining city services through difficult fiscal issues and challenges. He points to the proudest moment of his career, as city manager, as being part of a team that dealt effectively with the nationally publicized Eddie "Gwen" Araujo homicide in Newark. This tragedy put the city under a microscope and communities acted with dignity and as a tightly knit group to face the challenge together.

Referring to his legacy, Mr. Huezo points to the people that he has promoted or brought into the city's organization and the key people in place to lead Newark forward.

I join the city of Newark and its residents in wishing Al Huezo all the best upon his well deserved retirement. He has been a trusted public servant and we shall miss his warm personality and the genuine, consistent caring he expressed when carrying out his duties to make Newark a model city. Thank you, Al Huezo, for making a positive difference with your commitment to excellence.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MARY M. LASSEN

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Mary M. Lassen, who has served more than a decade as president and CEO of the Women's Union in Boston. Mary Lassen has been an extraordinary force for social justice and effective reform. The Women's Educational and Industrial Union, established in 1877, supported suffrage, legal rights, and wider opportunities for women. Mary Lassen built upon those historic triumphs and led the union into a new century, working with and on behalf of poor and immigrant women. Under her leadership, the union has provided job training for women moving from welfare to work, supportive housing for survivors of domestic abuse, and compelling advocacy for family economic self-sufficiency.

Mary Lassen graduated summa cum laude from Radcliffe College, determined to secure liberty, justice, and opportunity for all persons. Her struggle against poverty and injustice has been both intellectual and pragmatic. She believes in rigorous analysis and sustained collaboration. After working as a community organizer, she became executive director of the Committee for Boston Public Housing. In that office, she introduced early childhood, antiviolenace and community building programs in several of Boston's public housing developments, and then, characteristically, she took time to reflect. In a sabbatical year, as a fellow of the Mary I. Bunting Institute at Radcliffe College, she produced a study of "Community-Based Family Support in Public Housing." During a public policy fellowship sponsored by the Japan Society, she explored women's employment and workforce development in East Asia. She has inspired the union's important research on Family Self-Sufficiency and helped forge the Massachusetts Family Economic Self-Sufficiency Project, MassFESS, a statewide coalition of organizations, to measure the real costs of living, working and paying taxes without subsidies and to frame policy in terms of these real costs.

Under her leadership, the Women's Union opened Horizons II, increasing by 30 percent the number of supportive transitional housing units for battered and homeless women and their children in the city of Boston. This year, the Women's Union celebrated the opening of a newly designed, state-of-the art, woman-focused technology training center. The title of their report expresses their goal: Achieving Success in the New Economy.

Several of the most daring, inspiring, and influential women in the history of our country have been associated with the Women's Union, sometimes as supporters, sometimes as clients: Louisa May Alcott, Julia Ward Howe, Helen Keller, and Amelia Earhart. Mary Lassen deserves a place among them.

HONORING FRED YEZZI ON HIS CAMPAIGN TO BE ELECTED TO THE CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 11

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fred Yezzi, a resident of Chautauqua County for his quest to become the elected representative to the 11th legislative district in the Chautauqua County Legislature. Although Mr. Yezzi was not able to realize his dream, he has been able to make an impact on other's lives in a different way.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Yezzi traveled that path with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the voters of district 11.

Mr. Yezzi has tried his hand in county politics a couple of times. That is a respectable trait to have. Determination to do good things for your county is one thing that Chautauqua County residents strive for.

Chautauqua County is blessed to have such strong candidates with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Yezzi is one of those people and that is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

STATEMENT HONORING SSG  
DANIEL CUKA

**HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I am saddened to report the passing of SSG Daniel Cuka. He was killed while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The lives of countless people were enormously enhanced by Daniel's goodwill and service. He inspired all those who knew him. Our Nation is a far better place because of his life. All Americans owe Daniel, and the other soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom, a tremendous debt of gratitude for their service.

Every Member of the House of Representatives has taken a solemn oath to defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. While we certainly understand the gravity of the issues facing this legislative body, Daniel lived that commitment to our country. Today, we remember and honor his noble service to the United States and the ultimate sacrifice he has paid with his life to defend our freedoms and foster liberty for others.

Mr. Speaker, I express my sympathies to the family and friends of SSG Daniel Cuka. I believe the best way to honor him is to emulate his commitment to our country. I know he will always be missed, but his service to our Nation will never be forgotten.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE SERVICE OF  
MR. JIM DION

### HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, at the complicated intersection of housing, poverty and community development issues, one man has shined as a guiding light. Mr. Jim Dion, assistant executive director for Housing Operations at the King County Housing Authority, has devoted his life to ensuring that our low-income neighbors—be they families, victims of domestic violence, seniors or people with disabilities—live in high quality affordable housing. After three decades of distinguished public service in King County, WA, Mr. Dion is about to retire. He is a living testament to the power that a single individual possesses to help provide quality affordable housing opportunities, build communities, encourage self-sufficiency and protect the dignity of people with limited resources, while safeguarding the public trust.

The child of a minister father and a social worker mother, Mr. Dion undoubtedly acquired a keen sense of public service from an early age. Perhaps that explains his rise through the ranks from a property manager overseeing 700 units of family and elderly public housing in 1974 to a senior executive currently administering more than 4,300 units of housing as well as rental subsidies for 8,200 additional households.

During his career, Mr. Dion expanded the housing safety net in King County through a number of additional Federal and local programs and by partnering with nonprofit organizations to provide on-site services to residents.

Mr. Dion also worked diligently to promote acceptance of low-income housing in several high-cost suburban cities such as Bellevue, Redmond, and Kirkland, areas of the county with excellent job bases. Mr. Dion's involvement in this initiative, along with the well-managed, well-maintained housing he oversaw, paved the way for favorable community response to low-income housing in affluent areas and continues to ensure that living in these cities is a viable option for struggling families.

While administering housing for more than 12,500 households is a staggering enough accomplishment in itself, Mr. Dion did so as a model of efficiency and effectiveness. Since HUD has had an evaluation process in effect, Mr. Dion led his staff to achieve HUD's highest ratings for both KCHA's section 8 and public housing programs, reflecting his hard work and his commitment to the families and individuals he served.

Awards from industry housing organizations for KCHA programs and properties under Mr. Dion's jurisdiction have been practically commonplace.

Mr. Dion also tackled issues beyond the scope of "bricks and sticks." With his strong belief in the ability of people to overcome difficult circumstances with appropriate support, Mr. Dion is credited for laying the foundation of what is now the Resident Services Department at the housing authority.

Mr. Dion's commitment to public service did not stop with King County. For most of his 30-year career, he has also been an active mem-

ber of the National Association of Housing & Redevelopment Officials, serving on its Housing Committee and its Board of Governors at the national level, as well as in various positions of leadership at the regional and chapter levels. His unparalleled grasp of the regulatory process made him a truly respected voice on Capitol Hill.

Home is where we raise our children. Home is where we hope to age in the company of our friends and family. Home is where vulnerable individuals and families can maintain their dignity and gain a foothold in self-sufficiency. Through Mr. Dion's thoughtful, compassionate leadership, thousands of people have improved the quality of their lives because they had a good, safe home.

As the sun sets on his career, it is only fitting that we acknowledge the 30 extraordinary years of Mr. Dion's dedicated public service. My sincere congratulations to Mr. Dion, whose calm, reasoned approach to ensuring quality housing and services for our most vulnerable residents has forever instilled in his colleagues at the King County Housing Authority and in Washington's congressional delegation the importance of providing the best possible support to families and individuals in need. He leaves a legacy of hard work, compassion and high standards that serves as an example to us all.

### HONORING MICHAEL EAKER ON HIS CAMPAIGN TO BE ELECTED TO THE CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 7

### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Eaker, a resident of Chautauqua County for his quest to become the elected representative to the seventh legislative district in the Chautauqua County legislature. Although Mr. Eaker was not able to realize his dream he has been able to make an impact on other's lives in a different way.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Eaker traveled that path with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the voters of district 7.

Chautauqua County is blessed to have such strong candidates with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Eaker is one of those people and that is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

### SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS

### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to submit for the RECORD the following commentary written by Keith Burris which appeared in the Journal Inquirer on November 21, 2005. It is one of the most thoughtful and

accurate commentaries on the plan for action in Iraq proposed by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA). I agree wholeheartedly with his conclusion, "JOHN MURTHA is trying to save lives now. He is right. And courageous. And the loyal friend of those who fight."

### SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS

(By Keith C. Burris)

Everyone knows that public support for the president's war in Iraq has eroded. We know it not only because we read the newspapers and their reports about the polls but because so many of us are a part of that erosion.

After 9/11, most of us were capable of a knee-jerk reaction. Most Americans felt, "We have been attacked; we cannot just sit back and wait for the next attack." Most Americans supported attacking Afghanistan, because, to the extent that there was a Terrorist Central, that was it.

Invading Iraq was a tougher sell.

But Americans were inclined to trust their government, even though the memory of the Vietnam War was fresh in our minds.

That was a war in which thousands of young soldiers fought bravely and some 50,000 died. They were told, and we were told, that they fought for freedom; to contain communism; and, to paraphrase what was then being taught senior officers at the Army War College: If we fought the bad guys over there, we might not have to fight them over here.

Today, the young men and women fighting in Iraq are told the exact same things, and the nation is today told the exact same things, except that the word terrorism may be substituted for communism.

Our leaders went into Vietnam with good, even noble intentions: To "help those people" and to give them what we have—freedom and democracy. But our leaders didn't know enough about the history or the culture of the region. They didn't have a clear political or military objective. They didn't have adequate military power to subdue the country. So they got bogged down in a civil war in which they could not be sure about their allies and they sent our soldiers to fight a guerrilla war in which tactics were as unfocused as strategy and mission.

And then they began to lie.

The newest Nixon tapes show that the president actually instructed his aides and the military to lie. Our government broadened the war—into Cambodia. It told us it didn't. It got caught in the lie. And then the Nixon administration told the Congress and the public our troops were out when they were not. It's easy, explained the commander-in-chief to his deputies—we say one thing and do another.

Indeed, the entire war was based on what is now called "false intelligence." President Lyndon Johnson told the Senate that an American ship had been fired on in the Tonkin Gulf.

It hadn't been.

The final stage was flag waving: President Johnson, President Nixon, and their allies and aides said that people who suggested we had to correct this massive, tragic mistake—negotiate a political end and get the troops out—were demoralizing our troops and aiding and abetting the enemy.

In other words, they were treasonous.

Don't criticize the war effort while there are men in the field, we were told.

But if the war was not criticized, and a correction of course was not made while the war was going on, and the president would not or could not exert sufficient military effort to win the war, how would the war ever end?

It could only end as it did. By sputtering out. But with ultimate Viet Cong victory

and hasty American retreat by the U.S. troops that remained.

Meanwhile, between the time the nation realized it had made a mistake, roughly 1968, and 1975, many thousands died. Many fine foot soldiers. Many naval men patrolling waters they would give up, take back, and ultimately give up again. Many Marines. Many, many Vietnamese civilians.

And all for what?

None of it stopped the triumph of communism or the subsequent triumph of capitalism in Vietnam.

We got it wrong.

But, worse, once we realized we got it wrong, we "stayed the course," and then our leaders told us lies.

The biggest lie was: The way to show devotion to the troops is to support a war without a goal; without adequate military strategy or resources; without a chance of victory. If you love the boys, don't question the war.

In reality, that attitude killed a lot of boys who should not have died.

The biggest lie was that patriotism is blind acceptance and sacrifice of our country's young.

But something stopped Abraham before he slew his son Isaac. Maybe it was the voice of God. Or maybe it was the voice of questioning and of reason.

## II

After Vietnam, one of that war's brave soldiers, a man named Colin Powell, came up with a formula for what he said we really owed our troops.

It wasn't flag waving or blind loyalty to those in charge of the state.

No, he said we owe our soldiers:

—A clear reason for fighting.

—A plan to win.

—And overwhelming force, so that they can be sure they will win and will not be sent out to fight and die as sitting ducks and human sacrifices.

We knew that Powell not only understood war, but understood the Vietnam War. And that is why many of us trusted him when he told us we had to go to war with Iraq.

But it turned out he was wrong.

The CIA was wrong.

The Department of Defense was wrong.

The Senate was wrong.

Most of the country was wrong.

We had a reason for war:

Saddam Hussein was a brutal tyrant.

If he had nuclear or deadly chemical weapons, he would use them. We were told he did. Take him out first.

Fight them on their ground and not ours.

Help those people. Bring them freedom.

Contain terror.

But Saddam didn't have those weapons.

And once again, our leaders did not know enough about the history of a region they sought to reform.

And we don't know who our allies are in Iraq, if any.

And we didn't do it Powell's way.

We didn't send extra troops; we sent too few.

Our soldiers are sitting ducks.

And our best young people are fighting and dying for a war that will not end; a war without a purpose or a strategy or even defensive tactics; a war we now know was based on wrong information and false premises.

Some of us thought, once, that we could not be fooled again. After Vietnam, we would make the policymakers present a preponderance of evidence for war, and a real plan to win.

But 9/11 happened and we bought into the false premises, and we trusted Colin Powell. So now what?

We have been through the cover-ups and finger pointing about cooked intelligence.

And now the president and his men have started to call the war critics traitors.

You cannot oppose the war, they say, and support our troops.

It is incredible that they should feel entitled to this shameless emotional blackmail. For what kind of love is it that sends the young to die for no good reason, and with inadequate equipment? (Some of our military still lack adequate weapons and supplies, and 20 percent of their families have no health insurance.)

Logically, the true act of fidelity to the troops would be to either (a) give them a chance to win or (b) get them out of there ASAP.

This is what Rep. John Murtha of Pennsylvania has been saying for a year. And when he said so, in the past, he would usually add that the nation would probably not support massive force, since there are not another 150,000 soldiers to be had. Military victory would require occupation of the country, and therefore a draft, and, incidentally, colonial occupation for the better part of a decade. (Military victory and more troops is still the option Sen. John McCain prefers, though he does not mention the word "draft.")

The other day, Murtha, the first Vietnam vet elected to Congress (31 years ago) and the military's best friend on Capitol Hill, could take it no more. Not long after one of his visits to maimed soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, he called a press conference, which he almost never does. His message: Get our troops out as quickly as it may be done.

He has actually introduced a piece of legislation. It says:

—Redeploy the U.S. troops in Iraq to the periphery of the country immediately.

—Create a quick reaction force in the region.

—Create an "over the horizon" presence of Marines.

—Use diplomatic channels to pursue security and stability.

—Turn Iraq over to the Iraqis.

Murtha said he thinks it will take about six months. He said there is no military objective left for our military to achieve. They have done all they can.

Second, he said he is now convinced that the presence of our troops actually makes the nation less stable. They are the targets of the terror and unrest. They are the cause of continuing war, not the solution. Our troops function as foment. They are only killing time for Iraqi and U.S. politicians, and being killed.

Murtha rocked the capital and reignited opposition to the war.

## III

John Murtha also has two Purple Hearts.

"Are they going to call him a traitor?" asked a friend.

Well, yes.

The speaker of the House immediately accused Murtha of delivering "the highest insult to the troops."

The Republican floor leader said Murtha was "undermining the troops."

A congressman from Texas said Murtha wanted to "take the cowardly way out."

About a week ago, the president started this mantra: Trying to end the war gives comfort to the enemy, he said.

Criticizing war policy demoralizes the troops.

Then the vice president said it.

Then the president repeated it. Twice.

And all Republicans have since spoken with one voice: If you don't want your son or daughter to die for a war Bush and Cheney have no idea how to win, you are a disloyal American.

Sadly, even Connecticut's own 2nd District Congressman, Rob Simmons, joined in. He

attacked war critics on Veterans Day, just as the president did, and said that antiwar politics "undermines their (veterans) cause and degrades their heroic service and sacrifice."

No, it doesn't. It values their heroism enough to try to save their lives.

Lack of mission demoralizes them.

Lack of reinforcements undermines them.

A war without purpose or chance of ultimate victory is what degrades their sacrifice.

Simmons even joined in bashing John Murtha.

But Murtha probably knows more generals, officers, and grunts personally than anyone in Congress. He insists that they should not be asked to die, or suffer lifelong maiming, in vain.

Murtha's retort to the suggestion that he is undermining the fighting men and women he has devoted his life to: "This is not a war of words. This is a real war, and people are getting hurt."

Rep. Simmons went on to speak of the lack of support for Vietnam veterans during Vietnam and the mistreatment many suffered when they came home—they were not honored as they should have been and some were taunted and blamed for the war of their president.

True.

But that abuse was as nothing compared to fighting in that war after our government had given it up.

And most Americans, even then, could tell the difference between brave soldiers and a bad policy.

This country loves its fighting men and women in Iraq. The people have backed them all the way. The government criminally—has not.

During Vietnam there were plenty of us who wanted to end the war but honored and admired those willing to fight and die for their country. Some of us had family there and were intensely proud of their bravery and sacrifice. We could also see the futility of the war and the cynicism of the war makers. It is possible to do both. Most Americans get that. Rob Simmons should too.

A few weeks ago, I was in Washington when the big national protest of the war was going on. The city was full of "peaceniks." I met one of them on a subway. He was a man in his middle to late 70s who had been wounded in Korea, the forgotten war—my Dad's war. This man wore a T-shirt that said "Veterans for peace." And this is what he told me we owe our troops: "Certainty. We have to be sure it is worth it. We have to know what we are doing. Or don't go. If we screw it up, we have to fix it."

That doesn't sound unpatriotic to me.

When this war was about to start, Rep. Simmons was not for it. He said that from the intelligence he had seen, Saddam was not a lethal and imminent threat. He said we needed to clean up Afghanistan. He said the war on terror would be mostly an intelligence war, not one of bombs and tanks. He said it would be a long and complicated war and we needed to make friends, not enemies, in the developing world.

He changed his mind.

But he was right the first time.

And I wish he had spoken out and broken with his president then.

That would have had an impact.

When military men stand up to an unjust war, it makes a difference.

Sen. Richard Russell, the lead military expert in Congress during Vietnam, told President Johnson to get out in 1966!

But LBJ was afraid to lose a war, and Russell kept silent. Imagine if he had spoken out.

That is why Murtha is an American hero. He fought bravely in the Vietnam War and he is trying to end the Iraq War.

His speaking out may save American lives. Rob Simmons is also a good man—a brave, decorated vet, and a fine public servant.

But the odious tactic of questioning the loyalty and patriotism of people who want to end the war is beneath him.

And you know what else?

The people in power who kept the Vietnam War going for at least seven years after they knew the war was lost, and kept sending good boys to die knowing it was lost, and called the people who tried to end the war unpatriotic, they are the ones whose names stand disgraced in history.

And the doves who saw that the war was hopeless—the people the president called “weak” and “soft” and “Nervous Nellies”—they were right. Far from being treasonous, they were patriots. Far from being demoralizers, they were trying to save soldiers’ lives.

John Murtha is trying to save lives now.

He is right.

And courageous.

And the loyal friend of those who fight.

#### TRIBUTE TO DARRELL TALBERT

##### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Darrell Talbert for the leadership and dedication he has displayed while serving as mayor of the city of Corona, California. On November 29, 2005, Darrell’s term as mayor came to a close and I want to thank him for his commitment and service.

Darrell has called Corona home for as long as he can remember and he continues to demonstrate the extraordinary qualities we expect in our community leaders. Shortly after graduation from California State University, San Bernardino in 1989, Darrell co-founded Odyssey Group, Inc. and Odyssey Publications, Inc. The Odyssey Companies quickly became industry leaders in the autograph and memorabilia business.

Just 5 years out of college and ready to take a more active role within the community, Darrell was elected to the Corona City Council in 1994. During his time on the city council, the city of Corona as well as the surrounding region has experienced significant growth. While this growth is surely a positive sign, it undoubtedly presents our local leaders with a number of challenges. In order to maintain the high quality of life residents come to expect, the Corona City Council has taken a number of steps to provide residents with the necessary infrastructure and services.

The city of Corona has had a balanced budget in each of the years Darrell has served on the city council, and they have done so without implementing new taxes. Under his leadership and due to carefully managed fiscal budgeting, the city has added over 100 acres of new parks, implemented the Downtown Revitalization Project and successfully attracted new retail stores, businesses and nationally recognized restaurants to serve the citizens of Corona and the surrounding communities.

I know I speak on behalf of our entire community in expressing my appreciation for Darrell’s tireless efforts on behalf of our city. I also want to thank his wife Kimberly and daughter Haley for supporting Darrell and at times sacrificing their time with him to allow him to perform his civic duties.

#### HONORING MARK SACKETT ON HIS CAMPAIGN TO BE ELECTED TO THE CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 4

##### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mark Sackett, a resident of Chautauqua County for his quest to become the elected representative to the forth legislative district in the Chautauqua County Legislature. Although Mr. Sackett was not able to realize his dream he has been able to make an impact on other’s lives in a different way.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Sackett traveled that path with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the voters of district 4.

Mr. Sackett is a former legislator where he served the people of district 4 for many years. Mark is also a very creative man who never stops thinking of ways to assist a friend. Many people of Sheridan, New York may remember the large gavel that he constructed.

Chautauqua County is blessed to have such strong candidates with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Sackett is one of those people and that is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

#### CHEMICAL ADDICTION AND THE SPREAD OF HIV/AIDS

##### HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize last week’s World AIDS Day and draw attention to the troubling relationship between chemical dependency and the spread of HIV/AIDS.

In addition to the implicit dangers associated with intravenous drug use, use of illicit drugs and/or alcohol abuse can lead to poor decisions and unsafe sexual behavior that can result in HIV infection.

America’s youth, our most precious resource, are at especially high risk since adolescents face increased vulnerability to chemical addiction. Studies show that 50 percent of the individuals addicted to illicit drugs begin using drugs when they are between 15 and 18 years old.

That’s why the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) views drug abuse prevention and treatment as essential to stopping the spread of HIV infection, especially for America’s young people.

And while NIDA is an excellent resource that provides some of the top research in the area of chemical addiction, it is equally invested in educating the public about this public health problem. That’s why, in conjunction with World AIDS Day, NIDA is initiating a new public awareness campaign about the dangerous relationship between addiction and the spread of HIV/AIDS.

As co-chair of the Addiction, Treatment and Recovery Caucus, I want to congratulate NIDA and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for developing this life-saving campaign and commend these fine organizations for the tremendous research they are doing. This educational campaign and impeccable research will help us to better understand and prevent the devastating connection between chemical addiction and the spread of HIV/AIDS.

#### TRIBUTE TO REVEREND MASANORI SHOBO OHATA

##### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and honor the Reverend Masanori Shobo Ohata as he formally retires from the Buddhist Churches of America and from the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin.

Reverend Ohata has served as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Institute of Buddhist Studies since 1982. The Institute of Buddhist Studies is the graduate school and seminary of the Buddhist Churches of America. It is the first nonwestern religious seminary to be affiliated with the Graduate Theological Union, an interfaith consortium of seminaries dedicated to study and dialogue in a religious and cultural pluralism.

Reverend Ohata has also served as a member of the Board of Trustees for Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) Endowment Foundation since 1998. He was involved with the inception of the Endowment Foundation in 1983. The Foundation has provided over 11 million dollars of direct benefit to vital programs of the BCA which include ministerial welfare, education and administrative support.

Reverend Ohata has also served as a Sanyo (advisor) to the Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America and has advised five consecutive Bishops beginning with Bishop Shinsho Hanayama, whose term ended in 1968, through Bishops Tsuji, Yamaoka, Watanabe and Ogui.

Reverend Ohata’s contributions to the community are clearly demonstrated in his compassion and understanding. An immigrant himself, Reverend Ohata is a strong believer in the unifying powers of diversity, faith, tolerance and understanding. He has shared this strength through roles within the community.

The San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin sits in the heart of my district and opens its doors to people of every ethnicity, faith, nationality, culture and creed in the spirit of sharing and community. Yearly Obon festivals bring hundreds of people into the halls of the Buddhist church for good food and increased understanding among San Jose’s extremely diverse communities of neighbors and friends.

Although Reverend Ohata is formally retiring, I am certain that his legacy will continue throughout the sidewalks of San Jose’s Japantown and within the vibrant and diverse communities he has touched.



HONORING RICHARD NEWTON ON  
HIS CAMPAIGN TO BE ELECTED  
TO THE CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY  
LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 1

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Newton, a resident of Chautauqua County for his quest to become the elected representative to the first legislative district in the Chautauqua County Legislature. Although Mr. Newton was not able to realize his dream he has been able to make an impact on other's lives in a different way.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Newton traveled that path with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the voters of district 1.

Chautauqua County is blessed to have such strong candidates with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Newton is one of those people and that is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

HONORING CAPTAIN JOEL E.  
CAHILL

**HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, Captain Joel Cahill died last month from injuries he sustained while serving in Iraq. The personnel carrier in which he was traveling hit a roadside bomb, killing him instantly. He was 34 years old. He leaves behind his two daughters, Faith and Briana, and his wife, Mary.

Joel was the son of Larry and Barbara Cahill. He graduated from Papillion-La Vista High School in 1989 and enrolled in the Army a year later. His first act was to register for Special Forces training. With his strong intellect and fierce dedication, Joel Cahill became a decorated member of the U.S. Army Rangers. Joel also went on to continue his education at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, majoring in general studies. He served in Iraq with the 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry from Fort Benning, Georgia.

During his service, Captain Cahill became a skillful soldier. He was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Soldier's Medal, which he received for saving the life of a fellow soldier. During a training exercise with live grenades, Joel's quick action delivered a colleague from harm.

This act of bravery demonstrated how he lived his life; by putting others before himself. Joel Cahill had a strong sense of purpose. When asked about his recent assignment, he responded, with heartfelt emotion in his voice, "I strongly believe that this is what I need to do to keep my girls safe in the future."

Captain Cahill took pride in protecting America. His brother, Randy, described Joel as a compassionate individual with a good sense of humor, who conveyed a sense of sincere gratitude towards the troops with whom he served.

Captain Cahill's death is particularly hard. The father of young children, the husband of a young wife, his loss carries an unyielding sting. As we pay tribute to him, our hope is the sting may be softened, if for a moment, by the remembrance of a heroic soldier who sacrificed himself in service to his country. Captain Cahill lived and died an American patriot.

Captain Cahill now rests in Arlington National Cemetery; a fitting tribute for a dedicated soldier. He is a true hero. We shall forever be grateful.

IN RECOGNITION OF JENNIFER  
ROSS AND HER SERVICE IN THE  
PEACE CORPS

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Jennifer Ross, who has recently returned from two years of service in the Peace Corps.

Ms. Ross has followed in the footsteps of over 182,000 Americans who have served in 138 countries around the world since the Peace Corps' inception in 1961. Every year, thousands of selfless volunteers share their time and talents by serving as teachers, business advisors, information technology consultants, health and HIV/AIDS educators, and youth and agriculture workers.

Ms. Ross spent her time in the Peace Corps teaching students in Cotuijeni, Moldova, about health education and life skills, such as the development of self esteem and the value of friendship. In order to promote these lessons she used baseball as a teambuilding effort and as a means of creating a positive environment for her students.

Seeing the success of baseball in fostering sportsmanship and self confidence in her students, Jennifer worked to obtain a \$65,700 grant from the Baseball for Tomorrow Fund. Using this grant, she set up a summer baseball camp in Moldova.

Although Ms. Ross's service in the Peace Corps has ended, she has made a lasting impression on lives of the children she worked with in Moldova. I am proud of Ms. Ross and all of my constituents who are serving and have served in the Peace Corps and I offer them my deepest gratitude.

HONORING RETIRING CONCORD  
TOWN COUNCILMAN JOHN ALLAN

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor John Allan, whose service as a member of the Concord Town Board will come to an end on December 31, 2005.

Councilman Allan is a man dedicated to effective public service for the resident of the town of Concord. Few public officials love their hometown the way John Allan does, and his public acts have always had the intention of making life in the town of Concord better for those fortunate enough to live there.

While John's most recent run for public office has proven unsuccessful, it is a virtual certainty that he will remain active in local civic affairs. That is a good thing, for the town of Concord is better for the active public service of individuals like John Allan.

I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker, for offering me this opportunity to honor the public service of retiring Concord Councilman John Allan, and I hope that you will join me in offering to Mr. Allan the House's best wishes of good luck and Godspeed in all of his future endeavors.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE  
THAT DEPLOYMENT OF FORCES  
IN IRAQ BE TERMINATED IMMEDIATELY

SPEECH OF

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2005*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, the resolution under consideration poses a clear and concise policy question. Either you support the mission our troops are carrying out in Iraq or you are against it.

I voted to authorize the use of force back on October 10, 2002 and today I want to reaffirm, on the record, my support for this important mission. Furthermore, I want to let all of our troops know, especially those who train and operate at the four military bases in my congressional district, that I will continue to support those strategies that will lead us to victory and stand opposed to any cut-and-run strategy.

In his book, *The Hinge of Fate*, Winston Churchill said, "I like commanders on land and sea and in the air to feel that between them and all forms of public criticism the Government stands like a strong bulkhead. They ought to have a fair chance, and more than one chance."

I think that we ought to let those words sink in. They ought to have a fair chance, and more than one chance.

No one ever said war was easy and any historian can tell you that anything of significant value has never come easy. The brave men and women serving in Iraq are writing the latest chapter in the history of freedom.

We should look forward, continue to support our troops, and provide them with the tools and the strategy to triumph—completing their mission is the most important thing to them. It should be our goal as well.

Mr. Speaker, let's show our support for this mission and embrace a victory strategy, not just an exit strategy.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RICHARD E.  
TOMKO

**HON. TIM HOLDEN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Richard E. Tomko of St. Clair, Pennsylvania for his many years of selfless and heartfelt service to the residents of St.

Clair Borough and the many contributions he has made to Schuylkill County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Tomko began his public life as committeeman for the West Precinct in St. Clair at the age of 21. Soon after, in 1970, he became the chairman of the St. Clair Republican Party, a position he holds to this day. At the age of 23, Mr. Tomko was elected to the St. Clair Borough Council and served 8 years, including 5 years as council president. In 1980, Mr. Tomko resigned from the council to become borough secretary until he was appointed to the Police Civil Service Commission where he served for 3 years.

In 1985, Richard Tomko was elected mayor of St. Clair. Mayor Tomko was re-elected four times, serving 20 years in the position. A high school government teacher, neighbor, and friend, Mr. Tomko continues to be a vital member of the community, also serving on my Military Academy Recommendation Board.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to be able to recognize a man who has dedicated his entire life to the borough of St. Clair, helping hundreds of people in my district, including myself. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Richard E. Tomko on his many years of devoted public service and thank him for the many contributions he has made toward the well being of the citizens of St. Clair, Schuylkill County, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

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HONORING SCOTT TUCKER OF  
PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to honor Scott Tucker, of Petaluma, California. On January 1, 2006, Scott will officially retire after 13 years as the San Francisco District Manager, and 38 years with the United States Postal Service. He is the longest serving postal service executive at any major metropolitan area in consecutive years.

Mr. Tucker's career with the U.S. Postal Service began in 1968 in Hanford, California as a letter carrier. He held a succession of managerial positions in postal operations, until in September 1992, he was appointed to his current position as the San Francisco District Manager.

As the District Manager, Scott is responsible on a daily basis for the delivery of approximately 10 million pieces of mail to 3 million customers throughout northwest California that ranges from Sunnyvale in the south to the Oregon border in the north. He supervises a workforce of 10,400 mail carriers, mail handlers, mail clerks, postmasters, and operations managers. In the North Bay we have grown to approximately 3,000 employees spread throughout 205 postal facilities under Scott's leadership.

The San Francisco postal district has for nine consecutive quarters, under Scott's leadership, received the "Order of Yellow Jersey" award for excellence in customer satisfaction and commitment to professionalism. The district has been repeatedly recognized by IBM's Business Consulting Services Unit, as one of

the best on-time mail services for any metropolitan area in the Nation.

In the past 13 years, Scott has helped increase awareness of multi-cultural groups within the district. Under his leadership, numerous diversity leadership advisory councils were established including the Women's Council, African American Council, Asian American/Pacific Island Council, and the Hispanic Council. The Bay Area Federal Executive Board recognized his efforts and presented him with a diversity leadership achievement award.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that we honor Scott Tucker today for the years he has dedicated to consistently improving upon how we all receive our mail. The San Francisco District of the U.S. Postal Service employees and customers will greatly miss him. He has left some very big shoes to fill.

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HONORING RETIRED ELECTED OFFICIALS FROM THE TOWN OF  
BRANT, NY

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor three dedicated public servants whose service to the town of Brant has been effective and honorable. I wish today to honor retiring Town Supervisor Samuel J. Chiavetta and retiring Council Members Eugene Czyz and Marting Rosiek.

Although one of the smallest towns in Erie County and among the smallest in the 27th Congressional District, the town of Brant is in many ways a very natural bridge between the two counties that make up the 27th District—Erie County in the north and Chautauqua County in the south. Though a tiny rural farming community, the town of Brant is an important part of our region, and I am pleased to honor its retiring elected leaders today.

Supervisor Chiavetta, Councilman Czyz and Councilman Rosiek served as a effective public officials during a time of change, both in Brant as well as throughout western New York. Their service was to the taxpayers who elected them to public office, and their dedication to their town and to their community is steadfast. I am honored to have been able to call them colleagues in government.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to thank you for this opportunity to honor these three fine public servants, and I want to wish to them and to their many friends, family members and public supporters all the best of good luck and Godspeed in their future endeavors.

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SALUTING RADIO ONE

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Radio One, the nation's largest Black-operated electronic media company. Radio One is also the country's seventh largest radio broadcasting company, and has had 25 great years of broad-

casting excellence both nationally and in Dallas. This radio station has stood the test of time and has proudly served the community as a source of entertainment, election coverage, local news, and national events. Over the years, Radio One has undergone many technological and managerial changes and has become a pioneer in electronic broadcasting by combining innovative technology with reliable service.

Radio One is the leading radio broadcasting company targeting African-Americans. Founded in 1980, the company owns and operates 69 radio stations in 22 markets. Of these stations, 39 (29 FM and 10 AM) are in 14 of the top 20 African-American markets. I am proud to say that KBFB-FM as well as KSOC-FM operate in Dallas, Texas.

Radio One's Chairperson and co-founder, Catherine L. Hughes, and her son, Alfred C. Liggins, III, acting as the Chief Executive Officer and President, together have more than 50 years of operating experience in the radio broadcasting industry. Ms. Hughes, Mr. Liggins, and their outstanding management team have successfully implemented a strategy of acquiring and turning around underperforming radio stations. Their strategy for their radio broadcasting business is to continue to expand within our existing markets and into new markets that have a significant African-American presence.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Radio One in their efforts to radio broadcasting primarily targeting African-Americans. Their work continues to have significant growth potential in the African-American market and the radio industry in general.

Over the past 25 years, Radio One, KBFB-FM and KSOC-FM in Dallas have been a part of every major event that has occurred in Dallas and in the Nation. I am certain that they will maintain their high standards and strong foundation as it crosses the threshold into the 21st century. Dedication, philanthropy, foresight, and innovation have kept Radio One and its affiliates successful for 25 years and those same traits will carry it successfully into the future.

On behalf of the thousands of Greater Dallas Metroplex residents who have benefited from Radio One's broadcasting effort, I thank the station, its management, and its employees for their extraordinary contributions. I congratulate Ms. Cathy Hughes in advance as Radio One will be recognized at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC in the summer of 2006. I trust that their contributions to the community will continue to lead the way for many more years.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF JERRY  
TIPPENS

**HON. DAVID WU**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Jerry Tippens, a pillar of my Congressional District and Oregon for the past 40 years. Jerry died on November 28, 2005 at the age of 74.

Jerry came to Oregon in the early 1960s to work as a journalist for The Oregon Journal, covering among other things the Oregon state

legislature. He soon joined their editorial board and quickly became its editorial page editor. When the Journal merged with the Oregonian in 1982, Jerry continued to serve by joining the Oregonian's editorial board where he worked until his retirement in 1991.

It was upon his retirement, that Jerry's work and service truly began. He joined the board of the Oregon Food Bank, and through his chairmanship, grew this agency into becoming the second-largest food bank in the nation. He was passionate about helping those who were hungry and in need. Jerry ultimately became the voice for those who had no voice of their own.

I am honored to have known Jerry, and while he will be deeply missed, I am comforted with the knowledge that Jerry's spirit of community service and hard work will continue in Oregon. I am fortunate to have his daughter, Julie Tippens, serving as my Chief of Staff, and I extend my heartfelt condolences to Julie, her brother Hal, their mother, Helen, and Jerry's sister, Katherine Wiper.

In conclusion, I would like to submit for the record an editorial from The Oregonian that highlights the work and legacy of Jerry Tippens.

[From the Oregonian, Nov. 30, 2005]

JERRY TIPPENS

THE EDITORIAL WRITER AND ANTI-HUNGER ACTIVIST LEFT A MARK DEEPER THAN ANYTHING ON PAPER

Jerry Tippens, who died Monday in Eugene, was a substantial figure in the life of Oregon. As an editorial writer at The Oregonian and The Oregon Journal, and the last editorial page editor of the Journal, he was a powerful voice for rural Oregon and for the state's hungry, and a bottomless resource on Oregon in the second half of the 20th century.

After his retirement from The Oregonian, as a board member and board chairman of the Oregon Food Bank, Tippens played an important role in building it into the second-largest food bank in the nation, with a new state-of-the-art facility. Beyond any institutional identity, he was a constant and influential voice in Salem and around the state on behalf of Oregon's poor and hungry, and for parts of the state that don't always appear in the media.

But on the editorial board, he was a colleague, gentle and persistent, firm on the things he believed in—people and planning and Cleveland's prospects in the American League—and tolerant of the things he didn't.

In many ways, Tippens was an example of what editorial writers claim to be. To the news of each day, he brought a wide range of personal experience, from growing up on a Dakota ranch, serving in Korea and covering three sessions of the Oregon Legislature so closely that the legislators on the Ways and Means Committee voted him an honorary member. He also brought an always deepening knowledge of Oregon, looking at each day's issues and understanding not only what the problem was but how it got that way.

And most importantly, Tippens always had the ability to look at an issue—or a politician's speech—and see through it to the people affected.

When he retired from the editorial board and applied his insight and skills to the dramatic growth of the Oregon Food Bank—and a considerable improvement in the lives of thousands of Oregonians—we were proud.

But not exactly surprised.

HONORING PETER GUISE ON HIS CAMPAIGN TO BE ELECTED TO THE CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 12

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Peter Guise, a resident of Chautauqua County for his quest to become the elected representative to the twelfth legislative district in the Chautauqua County Legislature. Although Mr. Guise was not able to realize his dream he has been able to make an impact on other's lives in a different way.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Guise traveled that path with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way, I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the voters of district 12.

Mr. Guise has tried his hand in county politics a couple of times. That is a respectable trait to have. Determination to do good things for your county is one thing that Chautauqua County residents strive for.

Chautauqua County is blessed to have such strong candidates with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Guise is one of those people and that is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN H. ADAMS

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John H. Adams, a longtime resident of the Hudson River Valley in New York State, whose tremendous vision and distinguished career in environmental protection have left a significant and lasting legacy for our entire nation. I am very pleased to recognize and pay tribute to Mr. Adams as he celebrates his retirement from the position of president of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) after more than thirty-five years of dedicated leadership of the organization.

John Adams co-founded NRDC in 1970 as an organization of public interest lawyers focused on the development and enforcement of emerging environmental laws. As its Executive Director from 1970–1998, Mr. Adams built an effective and influential non-profit organization of lawyers and scientists, which is today supported by a national membership of more than one million people. As president of NRDC since October 1998, Mr. Adams has advised policy makers and members of industry on the growing importance of protecting and conserving our nation's natural resources for future generations.

Mr. Adams grew up on a farm in the Catskills of New York State. He earned a B.A. in History from Michigan State University in 1959, followed by a law degree from Duke University in 1962. Mr. Adams returned to New York after graduating from law school

and, several years later, worked as the Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, during which time he met and worked with a number of people who inspired him to enter public interest law.

With the unflinching and invaluable support of his wife Patricia, Mr. Adams established NRDC and became the organization's first employee. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Adams and NRDC's lawyers took on their first environmental case: preventing the construction of the Storm King Mountain pumped storage facility. This historic environmental battle, which eventually succeeded in protecting one of the most recognizable natural features in the Hudson Valley, has been viewed by many as the birth of the modern environmental movement, establishing important legal precedents and inspiring similar citizen efforts throughout the country.

Mr. Adams joined the adjunct faculty of New York University's School of Law in 1972 where he taught Clinical Environmental Law for 26 years. A year later, Mr. Adams reconstituted the defunct Open Space Institute (OSI), a conservancy devoted to the protection of open space, and has served as Chairman of the Board since this time, during which OSI has purchased or protected thousands of acres of land in the Hudson Valley, the Adirondacks, and the Catskills. One of the organization's most notable successes was its pivotal role in purchasing Sterling Forest, an area now consisting of more than 20,000 protected acres between New York and New Jersey, made possible through an historic partnership between the federal government, two states and numerous private organizations.

Mr. Adams serves on the boards of the League of Conservation Voters, Woods Hole Research Center, Center for American Progress and Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences. In 1999, he completed his membership on the President's Council on Sustainable Development and his participation in Environmental Protection Agency's Common Sense Initiative. Mr. Adams has received many notable honors and environmental awards including: One World One Child Lifetime Achievement Award (2005); NRDC's Forces For Nature Award (2005); the Wilderness Society's Robert Marshall Award (2005); the Natural Resources Council of America's Award of Honor (2001); the Green Cross Millennium Award for Individual Environmental Leadership (2000); the Judge Lumbard Cup for public service from the United States Attorney's Southern District of New York; the National Conservation Achievement Award from the National Wildlife Federation (1999); and the Francis K. Hutchinson Conservation Award from the Garden Club of America (1990). In 1998, Mr. Adams was named one of the National Audubon's 100 Champions of Conservation. In 1997, he received the Environmental Careers Organization's 25th Anniversary Award. In 1991, he received Duke University's Distinguished Alumni Award, and in 1992, Duke University Law School's Charles J. Murphy Award. Mr. Adams was also the recipient of an honorary Doctor of Laws from Duke University and Knox College and an honorary doctorate from Cedar Crest College.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to congratulate and honor John Adams on the occasion of his retirement as president of NRDC after his many years of hard work and committed service on behalf of the Hudson River Valley and

our entire nation. I offer my deep appreciation and thanks for the outstanding leadership that John has provided over his impressive career in protecting this country's natural resources, fighting for the health of our communities and forging a more rationale and sustainable future. Though he is retiring as NRDC's president, I am grateful that he will remain involved in as the organization's founding director so that the environmental movement can continue to benefit from his wisdom and experience. I would like to take this opportunity to offer my very best wishes for the future to John, Patricia and their family as they celebrate this important milestone.

HONORING THE POTEET HIGH  
SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the Poteet High School Pirate Marching Band for their recent victory at the University Interscholastic League State AAAA Marching Band Championship. On November 8, 2005, the Pirates competed against more than 20 other bands from across the State of Texas and won their second State Championship since 1997.

I would like to recognize the students and directors of the Poteet Pirates Marching Band, especially director Scott Coulson. Scott Coulson has been a strong role model and exceptional leader for the Poteet Pirates Marching Band.

As the Congressional representative of the students, parents, and teachers involved with the Poteet High School Marching Band, it is my pleasure to recognize their tremendous victory. This is an accomplishment that these young men and women will remember for years to come.

TRIBUTE TO TONY BENNETT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I take great pleasure in rising before you today to recognize one of the world's greatest and most admired entertainers—Tony Bennett who was honored by the Kennedy Center on December 4, 2005.

World-renowned as an "individual of unequaled excellence," Tony Bennett has remained for over 5 decades, one of our leading male singers of traditional pop songs who has entertained all age groups with his magnificent voice and dynamic performances. Indeed, he is an American icon whose talents are timeless and who continues to be an inspiration to all generations.

It is said of Tony Bennett that he is a superb performer, a true legend of American music, and a national treasure. While all that may be true, Tony is all those things and so much more.

In addition to entertaining audiences through song, Tony Bennett is also an accomplished

painter and author, as well as a devoted philanthropist. Throughout his career, he has participated in many humanitarian causes and concerns. He has raised funds for the American Cancer Society, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, and the Hospice of Baltimore. He has worked with the Center for Handgun Control and has supported environmental issues through such organizations as Save the Rainforest and the Project for Walden Woods.

His charity concerts have also benefited many causes, namely the preservation of the Apollo Theater in my Congressional District of Harlem in New York City.

What many people may not know is that Tony Bennett served as a foot soldier in World War II, and was an active participant in the liberation of a concentration camp. In 1965, he participated in the March on Selma with the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and refused to perform in South Africa during the era of apartheid.

Tony Bennett is a lifelong New Yorker born in the Astoria section of Queens. He attended the High School of Industrial Arts in Manhattan where he continued nurturing his two passions—singing and painting.

Tony's extraordinary and enduring career, took off shortly after Bob Hope discovered Bennett in a New York nightclub in 1949. That discovery has resulted in scores of albums, ten Grammy awards, a Lifetime Achievement Award, and induction into the Black Entertainment in Sports Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for this opportunity to pay tribute to Tony Bennett, an extraordinary entertainer, a true humanitarian, and a champion for all people. Legions of fans of all ages and musical tastes applaud his genius, and we can be assured that the legacy of Tony Bennett will live forever.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE  
THAT DEPLOYMENT OF FORCES  
IN IRAQ BE TERMINATED IMMEDIATELY

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 18, 2005*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this resolution. I have no doubt that the majority of the House will oppose it, so it will be voted down.

And by voting down this resolution, we are responding to the Republican leadership's desire to have us say what we're against.

But that's the easy part. The hard part—the part that should be under discussion—is to say exactly what we are for, what policy we think our country should follow regarding our military involvement in Iraq.

The Republicans don't want to have that discussion. They would rather put forward a politicized, petty, irresponsible resolution that is intended to score political points. Like the Bush Administration, they are adopting the tactics of a political campaign, and like the Administration, their greatest success will only be to further divide Americans. How does this honor our men and women in uniform who are even now risking their lives in Iraq?

It's clear that the Republican leadership is concerned that Representative Jack Murtha's

call for the rapid redeployment of American forces and reducing our military presence in Iraq is already carrying significant weight in Congress. Why else would the Republicans seek to trivialize and play politics with this proposal from a man who is not only a decorated veteran, but one of the most respected voices in our country on military and national security policy?

Like Mr. Murtha, I believe the Bush administration has largely failed in Iraq because the civilian direction of the war has not matched the skill and sacrifice of our soldiers. Going to war the way we did was a strategic mistake, and the aftermath has been a failure because of the president's refusal to plan and refusal to listen.

I voted against the resolution authorizing the president to rush to war in the first place. I did so because I had concerns about the president's refusal to consider more aggressive inspections of WMD before going to war, his inability to secure international support, his obvious failure to develop a plan for securing peace after ousting Saddam, and his reckless disregard of experienced military advice.

Although I was an outspoken opponent of going to war in Iraq, I have supported our brave soldiers because it has seemed to me that our national security is now linked, like it or not, to a credible plan for stabilizing Iraq and preventing a catastrophic civil war in the region.

I do not think supporting our troops is a partisan matter. In fact, I know everyone on both sides of the aisle does support them. So, it is disappointing—but, unfortunately, not surprising—that some have alleged otherwise.

And, some have suggested the resolution we are voting on today is a Democratic resolution, even though it was introduced by the gentleman from California, the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, who of course is a Republican.

The resolution we are voting on today isn't Jack Murtha's resolution—it is a cheap ripoff of a well-intended effort on the part of a respected veteran and long-serving Member. Jack Murtha's resolution calls for the immediate termination of the deployment of our forces, but it also says that the redeployment of forces should happen at the earliest practicable date, not right away. Jack Murtha's resolution includes important safeguards such as a quick-reaction U.S. force and a presence of U.S. Marines outside of Iraq who could respond as necessary if events in Iraq were spiral out of control.

I remain concerned about setting an arbitrary date for withdrawal because how we leave is as important as when we leave. That's why I cannot support Mr. Murtha's resolution and why I certainly cannot vote for this resolution proposed by Mr. Hunter.

Nevertheless, the fact of today's debate, coupled with the evaporation of public confidence in the president's management of the war, should be a wake-up call to the president to develop a withdrawal strategy that can garner bipartisan support and set an unmistakable path toward exiting Iraq expeditiously and with our interests and security intact.

This country cannot have 535 commanders-in-chief. There can only be one commander-in-chief and we need him to address the country, explain his withdrawal strategy, and to be honest with the American people about the costs and timetable for withdrawal.

We were led into war as a divided nation and today we are even more divided. A successful withdrawal from Iraq can only be helped if Congress and the Bush Administration work to bring unity at home. In a hopeful sign, that kind of unity was on display when the Senate passed with overwhelming bipartisan support a resolution requiring accountability by the president in Iraq, and the House should, at a minimum, do the same.

#### HONORING JANIE WALENTA

#### HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the leadership and achievements of Janie Walenta, former president of the Westlake Republican Women.

Ms. Walenta has served the Republican Party as a Precinct Chair and election judge. In addition, she has been actively involved with the Dallas Republican Career Women, the Bayview Century Club, and the Westlake Republican Women's Club. Through her service she continues to strengthen the Republican Party through candidate recruitment, training and election activities as well as advocating the GOP's common sense conservative philosophy of faith, family, free enterprise, and freedom.

Janie Walenta is a graduate of the University of Texas and the University of Dallas, and is currently employed a senior consultant with O'Neal Communications Management.

Today, I would like to recognize Janie Walenta's service and help making our community and our country a better place to live and to honor her as a strong Republican woman embodying the energy, vision and values of our party.

#### PRESTON ROBERT TISCH: GREAT CIVIC LEADER AND PHILANTHROPIST HAS DIED

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce into the record the obituary of Preston Robert Tisch written by Douglas Martin which appeared in The New York Times Wednesday, November 16, 2005. Mr. Tisch died at his home in Manhattan yesterday. He will be greatly missed by the people of New York City.

New Yorkers called Mr. Tisch "Bob." Bob Tisch was generous to New York City. He made his fortune in New York in real estate and other enterprises, but he shared his money, his impressive business talents and generous spirit by with thousands of people who would never meet him personally. Many New Yorkers, young and old were touched by his civic leadership and continue to be touched by his generosity even though he is gone from us physically.

In May 2005, Mr. Tisch was interviewed by Joan Baum, Ph.D. for the online edition of Education Update magazine. Dr. Baum

extolled Bob Tisch "extraordinary life of public service and philanthropy" mentioning his service as Postmaster general of the United States, his service in the '90s, at the request of then Mayor David Dinkins, as New York City's Ambassador to Washington, chairing NYC Public Private Initiatives, a partnership program to fund community programs, sitting on the board as a founding member of Citymeals-on-wheels, and as a driving force behind the new Giants Stadium.

Ms. Baum pointed out, that Bob Tisch cited among his proudest achievements "programs that have benefited public schools, particularly among them "Take the Field." This program is one that Bob Tisch founded in 2000 and has already restored 41 of 43 athletic fields for New York public schools. By May 2005, Bob Tisch's efforts had raised \$135 million in private and public funds for Take the Field. His goal was to rebuild athletic facilities in order to promote health, academic performance and pride.

In his interview, Bob Tisch acknowledged that Take The Field was as much about investment in youth and communities as it was about sports. When the schools' updated facilities are not being used by the schools they are used by the communities in which they are located. Ms. Baum wrote about her interview in May 2005: "Bob Tisch chuckles when he recalls how the owners of the two-story homes surrounding Forest Hills High School went out of their way to assure him they were going to 'watch over their field.' Other communities with new athletic facilities also watch over their fields.

Bob Tisch's interest in education is present in the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University and the Preston Robert Tisch Center for Hospitality, Tourism and Sports at NYU, which has recently added a Master's program.

I believe what was so special about Bob Tisch was the passion and love he brought to each of his projects. His ideas were brilliant, his projects successful and his profits in business high. But his distinguishing characteristics that were the true foundation of all his successes were his passion and his compassion.

Bob Tisch was one of-a-kind. I will miss him. New York City will miss him. What is wonderful to know is the students of New York City will continue to benefit from his ideas and his passion for education for a long, long time. Because of this I am positive his spirit is still with us and his soul is with God.

[From the New York Times, Nov. 16, 2005]

PRESTON ROBERT TISCH, OWNER OF LOEWS HOTELS AND GIANTS, DIES

(By Douglas Martin)

Preston Robert Tisch, who with his older brother built a multibillion-dollar business empire and who himself was postmaster general, half-owner of the New York Giants football team and leader of many of the city's top business groups, died yesterday at his home in Manhattan. He was 79 and also had a home in Harrison, N.Y.

The cause was a brain tumor, said Jeffrey Stewart, spokesman for the family.

Wellington Mara, the co-owner of the Giants with Mr. Tisch, died on Oct. 25.

Mr. Tisch was sometimes called "the other Tisch" to differentiate him from his older brother, Laurence, who was known as a nonsense financial strategist, partly from being the fiercely cost-conscious chairman of CBS from 1986 to 1995. He died in 2003.

But it was more often Preston Robert Tisch, universally known as Bob, who seized

the public view, first as a persuasive marketer for hotels and other companies owned by the Loews Corporation. As operations chief, his attention to detail once included personally hiring all bellmen for Loews hotels. He saw them as his best salesmen.

Mr. Tisch freely gave his talents to New York City. He served as Mayor David N. Dinkins "ambassador" to Washington; was chairman of host committees for the 1976 and 1980 Democratic National Conventions; and led the way in building a new convention center on Manhattan's West Side.

His last campaign, Take the Field, to revitalize the ragged athletic fields of the city's public high schools, raised \$140 million in donations. He said he could have written a check himself, but wanted a broad base of continuing support.

Mr. Tisch's enthusiasm for convening the city's movers and shakers began during the city's fiscal crisis in the 1970's with breakfasts at his Park Avenue hotel, the Regency. Major players in that municipal drama—the labor leader Victor Gotbaum, the real estate mogul Lewis Rudin and the investment banker Felix G. Rohatyn—were the first regulars.

"Stop over for breakfast, and you'll meet a lot of people," Mr. Tisch was famous for saying.

Many credit Mr. Tisch with coining the term "power breakfast," and the Regency continued to attract the likes of Beverly Sills, Henry Kissinger and Mr. Dinkins who said in an interview, "When you think of Bob Tisch, you smile."

In recent months, Mr. Tisch continued attending power breakfasts, as well as meetings at Giants Stadium and sports events there and elsewhere.

Among the city organizations he headed were the New York City Convention and Visitors Bureau, the New York City Partnership and the New York City Chamber of Commerce and Industry. When he joined with Mr. Rudin and other executives to form the Association for a Better New York in 1971, he and other soon-to-be billionaires posed delightedly with brooms.

His speaking schedule was so full that when President Ronald Reagan named him postmaster general in 1986, friends wondered if the job might really be "toastmaster general."

Larry and Bob Tisch were known for their generosity, not least their gifts to New York University where the medical center and arts school both bear the family name. So does a gallery at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the children's zoo in Central Park, not to mention namesake institutions at the University of Michigan, Tufts University and elsewhere.

The Tisch brothers add up to a quintessential Big Apple success story, beginning with playing stickball on the streets of Brooklyn and building to a financial conglomerate with annual sales of more than \$15.2 billion and assets of \$73.7 billion.

Their holding company, the Loews Corporation, ranks 127th on the Fortune 500, and has subsidiaries engaged in various kinds of insurance, the production and sale of cigarettes and watches, and the operation of hotels and oil and gas drilling rigs.

Preston Robert Tisch was born in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn on April 29, 1926, to parents who came from Russia. His father, Abraham Solomon, known as Al, owned a garment-manufacturing business and bought two summer camps in New Jersey, Laurel and Lincoln, which his wife, the former Sayde Brenner, helped him operate. As teenagers, Larry and Bob worked at the camps.

"My parents were middle class and like everybody else in Brooklyn at the time, they

worked hard and tried to move up the scale," Mr. Tisch said in an interview with *Newsday* in 1991.

The family moved every three years to get three months of free rent, a common practice even among the middle class. This meant Mr. Tisch attended DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx for one year and Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn for three.

Mr. Tisch joined the Army after briefly attending Bucknell, and enrolled at the University of Michigan after his discharge in 1944, earning a bachelor's degree in economics.

His wife, the former Joan Hyman, recalled him selling keychains for a dime, or two for 15 cents, in front of the university's football stadium. They married in 1948.

Besides his wife of 57 years, he is survived by two sons, Steven and Jonathan; and a daughter, Laurie.

In 1946, Larry, then a student at Harvard Law School, saw an advertisement for a sleepy resort in Lakewood, N.J., called Laurel-in-the-Pines, and persuaded his parents to put up \$125,000 to buy it. A family friend threw in another \$50,000 and took a one-fourth interest.

The Tischs refurbished the hotel, added amenities like a swimming pool and dreamed up promotional schemes that included importing three reindeer from Finland to pull sleighs in the snow. By the time Mr. Tisch joined the business in 1948, the hotel was prospering.

The family began investing profits in small hotel operations in Atlantic City, almost literally playing Monopoly on the boardwalk. They then took positions in Manhattan hotels. They typically found unprofitable properties, made improvements and raised rates. The brothers, personally and in business, could not have been closer. Their families socialized together, they went to temple together, played tennis together and even commuted to work together. In business, Larry made deals, Bob ran companies.

Bill Rudin, comparing the Tischs to his father Lewis and uncle Jack, the New York real estate magnates, said in an interview "They both sketched out a role that each of them wanted to play, and each ran with the ball."

In 1956, the brothers were ready to build their own hotel, the Americana at Bal Harbour, Fla. They did not borrow a cent to build the \$17 million hotel. It did \$12 million in business the first year, in large part because of Mr. Tisch's success in getting convention business.

With \$65 million from their thriving hotels, the brothers started buying into the Loews Corporation. An antitrust decree had separated the company's theaters from its filmmaking unit, and the brothers recognized that many of the theaters occupied prime real estate. By January 1961, they gained total control of Loews.

They knocked down the old Loews Lexington theater and used the site to build the 800-room Summit, the first hotel built in Manhattan in 30 years. They built the Americana, which at 50 stories was the world's tallest hotel upon completion in 1962. Other hotels followed, and Loews became a leading chain.

The Tischs decided to recast the company as a conglomerate. In 1968, they acquired Lorillard, then the nation's fifth-largest cigarette company. In 1974, they bought the CNA Financial Corporation, a nearly bankrupt Chicago-based insurance company. Within a few years, it had assets of \$16.5 billion and an A+ credit rating. In 1979, they purchased the troubled Bulova Watch and turned a profit.

By 1980, Loews had revenue of \$4.5 billion and earnings of \$206 million, and all its segments were doing well.

Luck mixed nicely with strategy. When the brothers sold the Traymore Hotel in Atlantic City in 1956, they retained a parcel of its land. They were able to take advantage of the casino boom that began in 1978.

In the early 1980's, the Tischs bought five supertankers for \$25 million when the oil market was depressed. The deal had no risk because even if oil prices did not rise, the scrap value of each tanker was \$5 million.

Mr. Tisch was postmaster general for almost two years, beginning in 1986. He used his marketing skill to come up with the idea of selling stamps by phone, and stressing sales of commemorative stamps, which are financially advantageous for the Postal Service because collectors seldom use them as postage.

Mr. Tisch, whose net worth was \$3.9 billion in 2003, according to *Forbes*, relished such hands-on personal involvement. Not only did he help found Meals-on-Wheels and serve as its president for 20 years, he many times personally delivered meals to elderly patrons.

His habit of working Sundays prevented him from seeing a professional football game until 1961, but he made up for it. After buying the Giants in 1991, he loved to attend practices and confer with coaches.

Mr. Tisch improved the Giants' business by sharpening marketing strategies, and, just as he had raised hotel rates, increasing ticket prices. He remarked that for all his business success and his oversight of the world's largest civilian work force at the Postal Service—and even his considerable civic and philanthropic contributions—he found people most admired his ownership of the Giants. That made sense to him.

"I want to be part of the fraternity and live out my life as a Giants owner," he said in 1991, shortly after acquiring a share of the team.

#### IN HONOR OF ANGEL GURRIA'S SELECTION AS THE NEXT SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE OECD

#### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) selecting Jose Angel Gurria Trevino as their next Secretary-General. Angel Gurria has been a good personal friend of mine for several years, and I am certain that his impressive leadership skills will be a tremendous asset to the OECD.

Previously, Gurria served as Mexico's Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1994 to 1998 and Minister of Finance and Public Credit from 1998 to 2000. During his time in these two posts, Gurria has worked diligently with me and many of my Congressional colleagues in promoting a better relationship with our neighbor to the South. In 1999, he was named Finance Minister of the Year by *Euromoney Magazine*. The following year, he was chosen Finance Minister of the World's Dream Cabinet by *World Link*, the magazine edited by the World Economic Forum. We are fortunate that all of the OECD member countries will now be able to benefit from Gurria's brilliance. He has done great work for his native Mexico and his economic abilities can now serve the thirty nations of the OECD.

I thank the current outgoing Secretary-General, Donald J. Johnston, for his ten years of service to the OECD. Gurria inherits a good

legacy created under Johnston, and I am confident that he will be able to lead the organization to even greater accomplishments.

I wish Gurria all the best for a successful start to his term leading the OECD. I congratulate him, his wife Dr. Lulu Quintana, and their three children on Gurria's honorable appointment.

#### HONORING THE DALLAS ROTARY CLUB

#### HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to help celebrate two significant anniversaries of Rotary International. This year, Rotary International celebrates its 100th anniversary. From its humble roots in Chicago, Illinois, Rotary has grown into a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Since 1943, Rotary International has distributed more than \$1.1 billion to combat Polio, promote cultural exchanges and encourage community service.

I also want to recognize the Dallas Rotary Club for their 95 years of service to Dallas County. Throughout its history, the Dallas Rotary Club has achieved great success in carrying out the mission of Rotary International.

The Dallas Rotary Club has raised money for community programs and events, from the local bike rodeo and youth summer camps, to teacher award programs and as far away as supporting our troops fighting in Iraq and being housed in San Antonio. In addition, they strongly support organizations, such as the Children's Medical Center and Scottish Rite Hospital.

Through these initiatives, the Dallas Rotary Club exemplifies the values of service and charity that lie at the heart of American society. As one of the Congressional representatives of the members of this outstanding organization, it is my distinct pleasure to honor them today in the United States House of Representatives.

#### IN MEMORY OF MAURICE S. PAPRIN: NEW YORK REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER AND ADVOCATE, EDUCATOR AND PROMOTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the passing of a dear friend and prominent citizen of New York City, Mr. Maurice S. Paprin. Mr. Paprin was not only a successful real estate developer in New York City as president of Douglass Urban Corporation and other companies, but also a tireless advocate for affordable housing and comprehensive social dialogue. He personified the definition of "Renaissance man," having an affinity and talent for many fields, succeeding in all he touched.



Mr. Paprin graduated from the City College of New York in 1939 and obtained a Master's degree in history from the University of Wisconsin. A lifelong champion of public education, under his leadership, the City College of New York bought a building from the B. Altman department store, transforming it into the current Graduate Center for the City University of New York. He also dedicated time to teaching history at New York University.

Mr. Paprin entered the real estate field in the 1950s, ascending to president of the Douglass Urban Corporation before starting his own real estate development firm, Paprin Realty Organization. A true pioneer in the field of affordable housing, Mr. Paprin oversaw the construction of countless apartment buildings in Harlem, part of my district, including the Schomburg Plaza in 1974, which partnered public and private interests to provide housing for low and moderate income families.

While Mr. Paprin left his fingerprints across the New York City real estate landscape, his efforts in the arena of political action and advocacy are also a significant part of his legacy, equaling his business prowess. A paragon of the American ideal that one person can make a difference, he founded and led a number of advocacy groups in New York City. As president of the Associated Builders and Owners of Greater New York, Mr. Paprin pushed for more affordable rental housing, housing subsidies and competent tax policy. In order to foster debate and positive political action, he also founded the Foundation for Social Change, the Fund for New Priorities in America and the Business Labor and Community Coalition of New York. These groups exist solely to explore new ideas about good governance and the role of government in society.

Aside from his overwhelming professional and social achievements, Mr. Paprin loved as he lived—with unmatched zeal and abandon. He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline, three sons, Seth, Yale and Frederick, a daughter, Judith, a sister, Eugenia Gunier, two stepsons, Steven Stuchin and Miles M. Stuchin, and 12 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Rita.

Maurice Paprin lived an amazing life, leaving behind a legacy of positive contributions to society and business. He was a New York City icon, a titan among titans. His forward thinking and influence will be sorely missed, both within New York City and elsewhere. It is my privilege to honor him for his accomplishments and for his example of how to be a true American patriot.

**A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO FRED AND KATHY FABRIZIO IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR LIFETIME OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND COM-PASSION**

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the life of Fred and Kathy Fabrizio. Fred and Kathy remained friends of mine until their passing and their legacy is the community in which we live.

The life of Fred and Kathy Fabrizio begins and ends with Tiffin, Ohio. Fred was a mem-

ber of Paul Hoernemann's football squad and a graduate of Heidelberg College where he excelled as a student and a leader. In 1999, Fred was honored with an induction into Heidelberg's Athletic Hall of Fame. The co-founder of PT Services, Inc., Fred remained an active part of the physical therapy profession until his retirement. Kathy was known through the community for her compassion and care of those in need. Her work as a nurse at Mercy Hospital provided Kathy with the perfect avenue by which to help us all.

The legacy of Fred and Kathy Fabrizio is one of charity and compassion. Mentors in the community, Fred and Kathy supported the St. Mary's Church, Calvert High School and established the Carmella Fabrizio Trust Fund to provide scholarships to parochial students. In addition, Fred's membership on the Heidelberg College Board of Trustees ensured our memory of him as a steadfast advocate and guardian of his alma mater.

Mr. Speaker, the Fifth District of Ohio is not a densely populated area. Instead, we are composed of many small communities complete with the character and needs of a closely connected people. Our survival depends on the kindness of residents like Fred and Kathy Fabrizio. Traveling throughout Tiffin, you will find many people who have been touched by the kindness of the Fabrizios.

Fred and Kathy's big hearts left many marks on our community and their generosity extended across all barriers and provided the love our community needed. While Fred and Kathy were taken from us too soon, their legacy lives on in the hearts and minds of all the residents of Tiffin, Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Fred and Kathy Fabrizio. On behalf of the people of the Fifth District of Ohio, I am honored to recognize their efforts to better the community. Their impact on us will far outlast everyone of us and we wish the family of Fred and Kathy our prayers and thanks.

**COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DALLAS COUNTY COUNCIL OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN**

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Dallas County Council of Republican Women. Fifty years ago, 17 Republican Women's groups joined to form an alliance, based on the guiding principle of the National Federation of Republican Women, "to foster and encourage loyalty to the Republican Party and the ideals for which it stands."

For the past 50 years, the Dallas County Council of Republican Women have worked together to support Republican Women's groups in the area as they promote the principles of the Grand Old Party and help elect Republican leaders from the Courthouse to the White House. The Dallas County Council of Republican Women continues to serve Republican Women's Clubs through meetings, a council newsletter and website, and training seminars.

Today, I would like to honor the Dallas County Council of Republican Women and their leaders, including: Pat Jordan (1955), Eleanor Owens (1956), Tilla Lindsey (1956), Mary Jester (1957, 1958), Dorothy Cameron (1959), Bobbie Biggett (1960), Glenna McCord (1960, 1961, 1962), Babs Johnson (1963, 1964), Linda Holloway (1965), Ann Good (1965), Alice Hale (1966), Jonita Hilton, (1967), Anne Nicholson (1968, 1969), Peeps Moffett (1970), Jan Bryant (1970), Iris Snell (1971, 1972), Dottie Beckham (1972, 1973, 1974), Barbara Staff (1975), Ruth Potter (1976, 1977), Ginny Bauman (1978), Shirley Dickinson (1979, 1980), Jean Rheudasil (1981, 1982), Marianna Ziegler (1983, 1984), Jan Patterson (1985, 1986), Edith Schuler (1987, 1988), Lynne Tweedell (1989, 1990), Alma Box (1991, 1992), Betty Doke (1993, 1994), Sandy Melton Stephens (1995, 1996), Sue Hutchins (1997, 1998), Rosella Hutchison (1999, 2000), Taffy Goldsmith (2001, 2002), Valerie E. Ertz (2003, 2004); Deborah Brown (2005). These strong Republican women embody the energy, vision and values of our party.

**BONO: A PERSONAL TRIBUTE**

**HON. JAMES A. LEACH**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, at a time the world is crying out for leadership and too frequently finds it lacking in political life, I would like to take a moment to comment on an individual who has never been elected to any post but is leading in ways beyond those who have. He is a musician. His name is Bono.

In the history of celebrity, no one has used his stature for greater social effect than this Irish songwriter and performer.

While the nightly news centers on problems of terrorism and other hate-inspired acts, Bono has recognized that the greatest public challenge of our time is disease control, and the greatest social issue is the division in the world between the haves and the have-nots. He has worked without ideological blinders with Republicans and Democrats in power in America; with liberals and conservatives in Europe; and with religious groups around the world to raise public consciousness and enhance public commitments to stem the onslaught of HIV/AIDS and reduce indebtedness of the poorest countries in the world.

Based on the movements that he has singularly helped lead, Bono is the first celebrity that merits serious consideration for the Nobel Peace Prize.

At a personal level, Bono has assiduously eschewed the pomp of overdressing and honed an "everyman" appearance which masks a razor-sharp IQ. As a songwriter, he is a poet with lyrics and as an advocate of political causes, he utilizes a profound observance capacity to articulate issues in ways which energize and uplift. He is a star because he does not act like one and a supernova advocate because his vision is so compelling.

To understand Bono, one must look to aspects of his background, including in particular, a love for a sport that I also played for many years: rugby.

Bono was a hooker. A hooker plants himself in the middle of the first row of a scrum, a position analogous in American football to a center. Hookers are generally the shorter, broad-shouldered leaders of the pack. They are the first to charge into a scrum. They balance themselves on the shoulders of their front row teammates called "props" and bend in a gymnastic-like contortion attempting nimbly-footedly to kick the ball backwards with their heels as their teammates push forward so that their side can control the subsequent movement of the ball. Hookers in rugby are the center of team effort and generally end each game with the most noticeable badges of the struggle: welts and bruises on foreheads and chins.

As a celebrity, Bono is the obverse of spoiled Hollywood prettiness. He is the member of the cast who succeeds because of unyielding determination, yet interacts with others as if he fully understands their plight and has received himself significant licks in life.

I once took my daughter to a U2 concert in Washington and was impressed with the way Bono used an oblong walkway jutting out from the main stage to engage the audience. Repeatedly, he would sprint from one side to the other and then stop and bellow a vibrant melody with no evidence that he had exerted himself physically. His physical condition appeared closer to that of a world-class athlete than night club crooner.

My wife and I have had the good fortune to welcome Bono to our home in Iowa City and, in turn, to visit him in his studio in Dublin. We were struck by his genuineness, by the collegial banter of his band and by the sophistication and discipline with which they produce music. Bono has enormous artistic talent, but his success is rooted in a work ethic. Practice and refinement hallmark his efforts.

Bono speaks to a new generation of youth because he understands that their yearnings and dreams include a common concern for the human condition and a desire to tap the idealistic side of human nature.

It is Bono's idealism and capacity to communicate that define his leadership. When Bono sings, people join in; when he speaks, he inspires people to care.

The world is obligated to take note of this hooker with an international conscience.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF TARYN FRITZ WALPOLE'S YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STATE OF TEXAS

##### HON. HENRY BONILLA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the service of an outstanding individual, Taryn Fritz Walpole. Mrs. Fritz Walpole has served the people of Texas for 7 years and the people of the 23rd District for 5 years making sure that her fellow Texans remained fully informed on congressional actions.

Mrs. Fritz Walpole's talents were recognized shortly after her graduation from Southern Methodist University. Her preparation there as a dual journalism/political science major anticipated her future career and helped lead to Senator KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON making her a

Deputy Press Secretary in 1998. Her successes and contributions to Senator HUTCHISON's efforts led me to ask Mrs. Fritz Walpole to join my staff. During her 5 years in my office Mrs. Fritz Walpole has set a standard for work that will be hard to replicate. Her accomplishments were recognized with promotions and she currently serves as both my Communications Director and Senior Advisor.

Taryn's gifts were apparent at a very early age. As a crusading reporter at Ravenswood Elementary School Taryn founded the school's first newspaper, the Ravenswood Raven in Burke, Virginia. Never one to rest on her laurels, Taryn was soon at it again, founding the Spicewood Times, at Spicewood Elementary School in Austin, Texas. Therefore, her current achievements should be a surprise to no one.

My colleagues, in the days ahead the State of Texas will be losing the services of Mrs. Fritz Walpole as she embarks on a higher calling. She will be serving the entire nation as Senior Advisor to the Commissioner of the Federal Food and Drug Administration. Texas' loss is America's gain and our nation will be well served by the professionalism of Taryn Fritz Walpole as she ensure that all Americans are adequately informed on FDA actions.

#### THE DAYTON AGREEMENT'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY

##### HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, the tenth anniversary of the Dayton "General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina" is being commemorated here in Washington, in Dayton, Ohio, and in various European capitals.

Despite its shortcomings, the Dayton Agreement has, in fact, formed the basis for maintaining peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and building a country devastated by a horrible conflict that included atrocities on a scale not seen in Europe since World War II. The very fact that discussions now center on moving beyond the confinement of Dayton's provisions through constitutional reform is a confirmation of the agreement's success. This success, as is widely known, did not come easily but required constant pressure from the international community.

One area of particular concern to me has been the necessity, recognized in Dayton, to cooperate fully with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, located in The Hague and commonly known as ICTY, in order to punish those responsible for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. Officials in Republika Srpska, one of the two political entities into which Dayton divided Bosnia and Herzegovina, have been particularly recalcitrant in this regard, and most persons captured in this entity have been through the efforts of NATO-led peacekeeping units. Officials in Serbia have also resisted cooperating with The Hague in transferring indictees and providing access to evidence and witnesses.

Fortunately, a combination of outside pressure—including conditionality on assistance and on Euro-Atlantic and European integra-

tion—and increasing revelations of the true nature of the Milosevic regime and its activities have led to considerable improvements in the last year. Many more individuals have now been taken into custody. Both in Bosnia and in Serbia, it is increasingly recognized that cooperation with international tribunal will not go away as a demand of the international community. Some go a step further and note that the same criminal circles which harbor persons indicted for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide also undermine democratic institutions and thwart economic recovery. Some, but too few, also see it as a moral necessity to recognize the horrors that were committed in name of the nation.

I applaud the efforts of those brave persons representing non-governmental organizations who have helped to document the atrocities which have taken place and increased public awareness of what really happened. I am also pleased to know that, ten years after Dayton, a War Crimes Chamber in the Courts of Bosnia and Herzegovina has been established and, with continued assistance, will relieve ICTY's work load and continue its work as necessary. Together, prosecuting war crimes will provide justice to the victims, strengthen the rule of law in the region, and hopefully serve to deter future war criminals from committing crimes against humanity.

There would be added enthusiasm for commemorating Dayton, however, if it were coupled with the arrest and transfer of Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadzic, who have been indicted by ICTY particularly for their responsibility regarding the genocide at Srebrenica in July 1995. The House commemorated the anniversary of that horrific event in which almost 8,000 individuals, mostly men and boys, were massacred in the days following an assault on the undeclared "safe haven." Other at-large indictees also must be arrested and transferred.

I therefore use this time, the commemoration of the Dayton Agreement signed ten years ago, to call upon those authorities in Serbia and in the Republika Srpska entity of Bosnia and Herzegovina to do the right thing, apprehend the remaining indicted persons, transfer them, and erase this as an outstanding issue not only in our bilateral relations but as an obstacle to integration. In the meantime, Mr. Speaker, I call upon my colleagues to continue to support efforts that require consideration of ICTY cooperation as a determinant of U.S. policy.

#### HONORING WORLD AIDS DAY

##### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, last week, on December 1, communities across the world joined to commemorate the 18th annual World AIDS Day.

World AIDS Day gives us a chance to evaluate what needs to be done to make substantial progress combating HIV/AIDS, both at home and abroad. Globally, 25 million people have already lost their lives to this disease, with another 40 million people currently living with HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS is the leading cause of death (age 15–59) and threatens the political, social and economic stability of nations worldwide.

We must answer the call to action to fight the AIDS pandemic on the global, national and local levels. Globally, we must continue to fund programs that not only directly address the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, but also those programs that promote the overall health, economic and social prosperity of developing nations.

On the national level, we can start by reauthorizing the Ryan White CARE Act. This landmark program, which provides federal support to metropolitan areas and states to provide lifesaving health care and support services for individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS, expired on September 30, 2005. I strongly urge the Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee to commence with hearings on the reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act when Congress reconvenes in the new year.

In my state of New York, significant time and money has been invested into HIV/AIDS care. No state spends more than New York to care for its residents with HIV/AIDS—over \$3 billion last year. Sadly, New York's efforts still are not enough to sufficiently address the need. New York City comprises three percent of the nation's population, but more than 16 percent of the nation's AIDS cases.

Mr. Speaker, we must do better by CARE Act funding. This program has been virtually flat funded for years, and its AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAP) only received a ten million dollar increase in this year's House Labor-HHS bill. Many very low-income people continue to be shut-out from ADAP programs due to states' varying income eligibility levels, which can range from 125 percent to 500 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. Without early, aggressive treatment people living with HIV/AIDS can experience rapid and often irreversible disease progression. Additionally, if care is interrupted drug resistance can develop, which compromises their ability to properly control their health.

The President's Principles for Ryan White CARE Act Authorization, released this past summer, include some troubling provisions which could have devastating results for communities' ability to provide consistent, appropriate care for persons living with HIV/AIDS. The proposed Severity of Need for Core Services Index will change funding formulas to take into account the availability of other resources, like state and local funding streams. This is bad public policy as it punishes states that have taken responsibility for their local HIV care and creates a powerful disincentive for other states to prioritize funding for HIV funding in future years, if they think the federal government will just cover the gap. No state spends more than New York does to care for its residents with HIV and AIDS—over \$3 billion last year. New York has always viewed this funding as a partnership between the state, cities and federal government and should not lose out on future federal funding for being at the forefront of providing progressive services and treatment.

Secondly the President's proposal for a minimum of 75 percent of Ryan White CARE Act funding to be spent on core medical services should be seriously revisited. While there is no question that appropriate funding should be directed towards medical care, localities that benefit from comprehensive state funding for medical care, might better serve patients with using the funding for transportation to medical

visits, emergency housing assistance for homeless patients, and other key services. This hard number fails to reflect the different resources that cities like New York utilize to care for their patients, and the changing needs of the HIV/AIDS patient population.

New York City has always had a special respect for the opportunities the Ryan White CARE Act affords the city in serving the needs of our HIV/AIDS population. As of December 31, 2003, there were 142,085 cumulative AIDS cases in NYC, and 88,479 City residents diagnosed as Persons Living With HIV/AIDS. Although Ryan White CARE Act is widely considered the payer of last resort for people with HIV/AIDS, it fills much of the void in providing treatment and support services for those who either are uninsured or underinsured, without the necessary resources to access desperately needed care.

Mr. Speaker, it is shameful that Congress recently passed legislation with billions of dollars in cuts to Medicaid, all in the name of reform. Real reform would be to permit early treatment for those living with HIV in the Medicaid program. Under current Medicaid rules, most HIV positive people must meet both an income standard and be disabled—by AIDS—before they can receive access to Medicaid provided care and treatment that could have prevented them from becoming ill so quickly. This policy runs counter to current Federal HIV treatment guidelines which call for early access to medical care and treatment including the use of combination antiretroviral therapy. Medical costs for those with advanced AIDS are significantly higher than costs for caring for HIV positive people, and this is a burden on the States' Medicaid budgets.

I offered an amendment in the Energy and Commerce Committee markup for Medicaid reform to give States the OPTION of amending their Medicaid eligibility requirements to include uninsured, pre-disabled low-income people living with HIV. ETHA, which has been introduced by Leader Pelosi in prior Congresses and Senator Smith and Senator Clinton in the Senate, is modeled after the successful Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Act, BCCA, that allows states to provide early access to Medicaid to women with cancer. Forty-nine States have implemented the BCCA, designed to preserve health and prevent unnecessary and high-cost medical interventions. As with the BCCA, ETHA includes an enhanced Federal match rate of 65 percent to 83 percent to encourage States to participate in offering the services.

Although my amendment failed, a demonstration project for ETHA, was successfully offered by Senator CLINTON and Senator SMITH in the Senate consideration of the reconciliation bill. Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage the preservation of this important policy in the formal reconciliation bill.

World AIDS Day is an opportunity to examine what progress we have made and to seriously consider what we must do to address this overwhelming problem. Working together, we can address both prevention and early treatment options, attacking HIV/AIDS head on.

## HONORING THE SOUTHEAST DALLAS ROTARY CLUB

### HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to help celebrate two significant anniversaries of Rotary International. This year, Rotary International celebrates its 100th anniversary. From its humble roots in Chicago, Illinois, Rotary has grown into a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Since 1943, Rotary International has distributed more than \$1.1 billion to combat polio, promote cultural exchanges and encourage community service.

I also want to recognize the Southeast Dallas Rotary Club for their 19 years of service to Dallas County. Throughout its history, the Southeast Dallas Rotary Club has achieved great success in carrying out the mission of Rotary International.

The Southeast Dallas Rotary Club has raised money for Dallas Independent School District (DISD) and supported programs to buy school supplies for students. In addition they have been involved in local projects, such as constructing neighborhood parks and helping individuals in need with home improvements.

Through these initiatives, the Southeast Dallas Rotary Club exemplifies the values of service and charity that lie at the heart of American society. As the Congressional representative of the members of this outstanding organization, it is my distinct pleasure to honor them today in the United States House of Representatives.

## BIO OF CHARLES ADAMS

### HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Charles R. Adams retired from his position of National Employee Development Center Director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Fort Worth, Texas on November 3, 2005.

Adams learned the importance of self-development at an early age while growing up on his family farm in Logansport, Louisiana. His parents, the late Mr. T.C. Adams and Elneva Adams, gave him and his ten siblings firsthand experience in working the land, and he still carries those experiences with him today.

After leaving Logansport, Adams graduated from Southern University at Baton Rouge with a Bachelor of Science in Agronomy. He received his Master's Degree in Public Administration from Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 1983 and has Ph.D. studies in Urban and Public Affairs at the University of Texas in Arlington.

His impressive career with USDA spans some 38 years, having held some of the top positions in his Agency, including Regional Conservationist for the NRCS Southeast Region, based in Atlanta, Georgia, from 1997–

2004, Director of the National Employee Development Center, based in Fort Worth, Texas, from 1993–97, South National Technical Center Associate Director, also based in Fort Worth, from 1992–93, and Water Quality Coordinator at the center from 1990–92.

Before that Adams served as NRCS's State Conservationist for Arizona, based in Phoenix, from 1988–90, after having been the State Conservationist for Nevada, based in Reno, from 1986–88. He was the Deputy State Conservationist in New Mexico, based in Albuquerque, from 1985–86, after having been the Assistant State Conservationist for Operations at that location from 1984–85.

Adams worked as an area conservationist in Rio Rancho, N.M., from 1983–84, after working as an area conservationist in Flagstaff, Ariz., from 1981–82. From 1978–81 he served as a district conservationist in Edinburg, Texas, following service from 1976–78 as a district conservationist in Eastland, Texas. He was a soil conservationist for the Agency in Abilene, Texas from 1973–76. He began his full-time career with the agency as a soil scientist in Athens, Texas in 1969.

During his tenure with USDA, Charles founded some of the Agency's most innovative approaches to outreach, including the Student Trainees in Agriculture Related Sciences (STARS) program, an initiative to introduce under-served high school students in the Southeast to agriculture, as well as NRCS's American Indian Program Delivery Initiative, an annual conference linking USDA officials with American Indian leaders to promote tribal participation in USDA programs and services.

While working for NRCS Charles Adams has received a number of awards and recognitions. Within the last few years alone he received several USDA Honor Awards, including the Secretary's Award for his leadership of the Southeast Region American Indian Initiative Workgroup and the Sustainable Coffee Pro-

duction Team, and his work in the Agency's Streamlining and Cost-saving Initiative. He received special recognition through a national volunteer award for his long-standing dedication to the NRCS Earth Team Volunteer Program and was the recipient of the Chief's Workforce Diversity Award which praised his encouragement and promotion of professional development among his employees. In addition, his extensive outreach efforts to minorities and women earned him a nomination for the Agency's highest Civil Rights Award in 2003.

Adams is married to the former Prenella Williamson of Port Gibson, Mississippi. In his spare time, he enjoys raising horses on his ranch in Shreveport, Louisiana, restoring his collection of antique cars, and fishing with his young grandsons.

RECOGNIZING MR. KIM KEE YEE  
FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO  
THE UNITED STATES GOVERN-  
MENT

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2005*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Kim Kee Yee for a career of dedicated service to the United States Government spanning sixty years. Mr. Yee will be honored today in Tiyan, Guam with a Federal Career Service Ceremony.

Mr. Yee was born on February 18, 1928, in the then U.S. Territory of Hawaii to Kon Fook and Kui Len Lau, who immigrated to Hawaii from China. While attending Waipahu High School, Mr. Yee witnessed the attack on Pearl Harbor. Upon graduation from high school in 1945, he enlisted in the United States Army

where he officially began his service to the United States of America. While in the Army, Mr. Yee successfully completed fifty "jumps" as a paratrooper in the famed 82nd Airborne Division. Mr. Yee was honorably discharged from the Army in 1946. Shortly afterward he came to Guam and accepted a position as an electronic technician with the Civil Aeronautics Administration.

In 1950, after passage of the Organic Act of Guam, Mr. Yee began his career with the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Guam Office. Since then, Mr. Yee has served with distinction. Mr. Yee was given a career appointment by the FAA in 1957. Of special note is that, as an FAA employee on Guam, Mr. Yee worked in support of U.S. Armed Forces during the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Persian Gulf War of 1991.

Currently, Mr. Yee serves as an Airway Transportation Systems Specialist. Mr. Yee has received numerous awards in recognition of his excellent service. Mr. Yee is a seven-time recipient of the FAA's Performance Award. In addition, he has also received the Special Act/Service Award on four separate occasions. Mr. Yee has furthermore received a Letter of Commendation for Reliability of Guam Radar Services.

Today, I join with the FAA and the people of Guam in honoring Mr. Kim Kee Yee for his years of distinguished service. His career serves as an inspiring example of commitment to the United States Government.

Mr. Yee married Ms. Anita Benevente Santos from the village of Sinajana, Guam on December 1, 1956. Their marriage has blessed them with five children and eleven grandchildren. I congratulate Mr. Yee and his family upon his reaching sixty notable years of distinguished service to the United States Government.